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SPECIAL TERMS FOR LARGE ORDERS.

THE LIBRARY JOURNAL

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THIS is the last word before the Chautauqua conference, and while it should be a word of final urging to those whose plans are not definitely made, it is also and more emphatically a word of congratulation and gratification. For unless all signs fail, the Chautauqua meeting is to be a memorable one. The attendance already assured bids fair to bring the record well up to the high-water mark of the Cleveland meeting; the program offers practically a course of instruction in the two fundamental subjects of the librarian's personal equipment and the work the library should perform in the community; while the local arrangements combine most happily the refreshment of a vacation rest with the diversions of a summer holiday. The date of the meeting renders attendance at the Washington convention of the National Educational Association — which through its Library Department gives special representation to library interests — possible at but little additional expense; while for those to whom the conference must come as a vacation the second week of the post-conference rest assures a delightful and inexpensive holiday. We can only say again — what there should be little need of saying — that those who come to these annual conferences receive many fold the value of the time and money spent, and that those who do not come miss more than can be easily estimated. And so let all who hesitate decide at once — decide to go, and decide to stay as long as possible.

THE plan of the Chautauqua program, as outlined in the last number of the JOURNAL, is in some respects a novel one. The centering of papers and discussions upon two main topics and the handling of other subjects outside these topics by means of the section system are the special departures from previous custom, for the substitution of reports by individual reporters in place of special committees has been made before and is a change rather in name than in fact. The program, as usual and despite good resolutions against overcrowding, is

rather overwhelming in its extensiveness and will probably require frequent recourse to the ten-minute limit — which it is understood will generally prevail — if it is to be fully presented. This is not to be regretted, for brisk sessions with short papers and a rapid fire of discussion are thoroughly stimulating, and with long addresses even a short program is apt to drag. Aside from the subjects outlined in the program there are at least two matters directly affecting the association which it is to be hoped may receive attention at Chautauqua. The formulation of a definite rule respecting succession to the presidency of the association should take a first place in the order of business, and of no less importance is the final consideration to be given this year to the constitutional amendment presented at Philadelphia, increasing the number of councillors-at-large and giving representation on the council to state or local library associations. To both these important subjects the conference should give careful consideration.

THE most important bibliographical feature of the present year, in relation with the A. L. A. conference, will doubtless be the "evaluated" bibliography of American history, the plan of which was set forth by Mr. Iles in the last issue of the JOURNAL, and which has already reached the stage — thanks to Mr. Larned's enterprise and to his personal generosity in giving his valuable time to the work — of a pamphlet of 72 pages, giving a "provisional list of books relating to American history, selected for 'appraisal' in notes to be prepared by special students." The note appended to the title states that the list is intended to include both books for popular reading and works for the deeper study of history, to embrace the unworthy literature which needs to be marked as such for information to the uncritical public, and to call out suggestions of additions or omissions from librarians and students. It is unnecessary to say that Mr. Larned's working knowledge of literary and

historical bibliography, as shown in his valuable "History for ready reference," makes him *primus inter primos* of those fitted to do this work, and it will not be forgotten that Mr. Iles has not only developed the plan, but has set the pace of generosity in developing evaluated lists. While Mr. Larned is giving his time and toil and his associates will give theirs as annotators, the incidental expenses of editing, as well as printing expenses, are undertaken by Mr. Iles himself. Mr. Iles' modesty in keeping his own name in the background, so that mention of this kind is made always against his protest, sets a double example to those who would use their time and money for the benefit of others.

Communications.

HUMPHREY'S COLONIAL TRACTS.

A YEAR ago George P. Humphrey, of Rochester, began the publication of "Colonial tracts," issued monthly, which, he says in a prefatory note, "is designed to offer in convenient form and at a reasonable price some of the more valuable pamphlets relating to the early history of America which have hitherto been inaccessible to the general public, although of so much importance to the historical student." The first volume is now completed, and turns out to be an exact reprint of the first volume of the collection commonly known as the Peter Force Tracts, which will be found in almost every public library and in many private libraries and bookstores, being by no means scarce.

The publisher may be justified in reprinting these tracts, but he is not justified in leading librarians to suppose that he is offering them something "hitherto inaccessible." The careful omission of the name of Peter Force from all the tracts originally printed by him, although the name of the publisher is given in every other instance, indicates deliberate suppression of the source of the reprints.

H. M. UTLEY.

PUBLIC LIBRARY,
Detroit, Mich. }

THE publisher of "Colonial Tracts" is glad to acknowledge here a fact which he had supposed must be known to every librarian—that he has reprinted, under the title of "American colonial tracts," the first volume of Force's Tracts (Washington, 1838,) with the addition, however, of a most complete index, not contained in the original, and will reprint the other three volumes in due course and in his regular monthly issues.

"Hitherto inaccessible" he believes entirely justified in this case by reason of the scarcity of the set from which he takes his text. "Scarcity" is a somewhat relative expression as applied to books, but he believes it can be used with perfect propriety in speaking of Force's Tracts. A sincere desire on the part of the publisher to place these pamphlets at a low price within

reach of the student of American history must be his justification for their reissue.

GEORGE P. HUMPHREY.

ROCHESTER, N. Y.

LIBRARIES AS AGENTS OF "THE MONEY POWER."

THE *Reformed Church Review* for April, 1898, contains an editorial (p. 252-261) entitled "Perils of the republic." On pages 254-255 occurs the following:

"It is true that by the control of the means of subsistence and by the skilful use of money the people have thus far been kept in a tolerable state of submission. 'Give a man power over my subsistence,' said Alexander Hamilton, 'and he has power over my whole moral being!' That principle is, indeed, verifying itself in the economic and social conditions of our time. The owners of capital seem to be the masters of the world, whose right to dominion the masses have generally acknowledged. And besides, the control of the organs of intelligence, especially of the metropolitan press, by the money power has contributed to the same result. It is a great thing to have one's hand on the organs of public information. It is a shrewd policy on the part of some of our great millionaires to expend a trifle of the gains which they have made off the people in giving them public libraries. Why libraries? Because he who selects the libraries, as he who makes the songs, of the people, may be expected to frame its laws."

From the general tone of the editorial, it is clear that the editor implies that libraries have been founded by millionaires for the purpose of keeping the masses in a "tolerable state of submission" to the classes—the owners of money. Libraries and other institutions have doubtless been founded by men whose motives were not of the purest and best; but I take it we have a right to judge a man's motives only by his acts. The question, therefore, is, has the founder of any library acted in such a way, by any provision or restriction as to the selection of books, etc., as to justify the charge that his motive was the control of the information of the people, to keep them in a "tolerable state of submission"? The question is one of great importance; and if any one knows, or has reason to believe, that the keeping of the masses in a "tolerable state of submission" was the motive for founding any library, the undersigned will be most happy to hear of that library and its methods.

SAMUEL H. RANCK.

THE ENOCH PRATT FREE LIBRARY,
Baltimore, Md. }

MUNICIPAL DOCUMENT FOR DISTRIBUTION.

THE Honorable Robert E. McKisson, mayor of the city of Cleveland, has courteously placed at the disposal of the librarian of the Cleveland Public Library copies of his annual message for distribution to libraries and other institutions. It forms a pamphlet of 35 pages, with illustrations, showing the progress of various municipal improvements. It will be sent, without charge, to any institution applying.

Address PUBLIC LIBRARY, Cleveland, O.

SHALL PUBLIC LIBRARIES BUY FOREIGN LITERATURE FOR THE BENEFIT OF THE FOREIGN POPULATION?*

BY GRATIA COUNTRYMAN, *Minneapolis Public Library.*

This paper does not expect to settle the question raised by the subject "Shall public libraries buy foreign literature for the benefit of the foreign population?" but will try to put into shape the reasons that have gradually brought the writer to the views now held.

We will restrict the meaning of the phrase "foreign literature" to the lighter classes of literature, for no one questions that much of scientific and historical literature and works of classic value must be purchased in the original; but the present question refers to works that will not be used by English readers, but are purchased solely for the foreign element among us.

When the Minneapolis Public Library was opened eight years ago a fairly large number of books in the German, French and Scandinavian languages, and a few in Italian, were put into circulation. A little while after there came a request for some Hebrew books from a number of Jews, who did not desire their children's mental development to be aided solely by means of English books; consequently, a few Hebrew books were purchased, to the utter discomfiture of the head cataloger. Then came a Welsh minister with a list of Welsh books, and those were bought. The next request was from a colony of French-Canadians who lived near one of the branches. Their list was honored and the books sent to the branch located near them. Finally, the Russians put in their plea and got a small collection of Russian books, and the Italians petitioned for more, and it may be only a question of time before the Hungarians, Poles, Armenians and Japanese file similar petitions and the head cataloger be obliged to resign her position, not being a polyglot dictionary.

Under such experiences, which, I presume, are repeated in every large library, the question naturally arises: Should a library yield to these requests of a foreign element? Is it a proper function of the Public Library to buy books in so many languages, and if so, where shall it draw the line?

For a number of years my views were similar to those expressed in an editorial of the LIBRARY

JOURNAL of October, 1894, which were in substance that the purchase of books in foreign languages should be minimized; that the library should not serve to perpetuate the barriers of race and language; that the library should be wholly American, and its influence tend wholly toward Americanizing the foreign-born.

This seemed to me the true view until, happening over at the branch where the French-Canadians were just receiving their new books, I saw them gathering around these treasures like flies around a molasses-jug, and, with heads close together, buzzing with suppressed excitement and delight. I knew then that those few books would bring them happiness for days to come. My previous opinions were shaken, and the question naturally arose: "Were they worse citizens because the city library supplied to them books in their own native tongue? Were they less good Americans because their adopted country and its institutions recognized their peculiar needs?" Nay, verily, I thought not; rather their feeling would be one of gratitude and a sense of obligation that would bind them to the library and this country more than the national literature could possibly separate them.

In one of our branches, which is located in a district largely Scandinavian, we have shelved several thousand Scandinavian books. I have never seen a Scandinavian *child* go near those shelves. I remarked upon this one day to a Norwegian, and asked him if he didn't want his children to keep their language and a knowledge of their native literature. He answered, in broken English, to the effect that his children had to live in this country and he wanted them to keep to our language and our books and our customs. I asked him if that feeling was quite general, and he answered that it was, so far as he knew; and then he added that his children could not be made to read anything but English if he wanted them to. That did not sound as if the foreign literature in the library were producing anything but American loyalty. Certainly this Norwegian wanted his children to be American, and his children insisted upon being American. He himself wanted books in his own language, but that did not keep up in his mind any race barrier.

* Paper read at Interstate Library meeting, Evanston, Ill., Feb. 22, 1898.

The night schools in our cities are attended very largely by foreigners— young men who are anxious to read and speak our language, who look forward to being American citizens. The library does not need to supply foreign literature to any extent for them or the children. But the older ones can scarcely be expected to forget their fatherland or to cease loving their mother tongue. Besides this, they either speak English with difficulty or not at all, so that if they cannot get any books in their own tongue they will be likely to read nothing at all. It does not appear that the library would be making better citizens of them by doing nothing at all for them than if it supplied them with books they could read.

What, on the whole, could be more Americanizing than the feeling of loyalty which these alien people would soon feel for the cosmopolitan library that welcomes them and in which they have a part and a place?

I believe still that the library should be an Americanizing institution, but it must reach these people before it can Americanize them, and if it succeeds in making any one of them more contented and happy it has to that extent made him a more loyal American. Moreover, will not this land of his adoption profit more by the foreigner whose intelligence is increased, even if it is done through the medium of his own language? Discontent with surroundings and ignorance are the causes of rebellion and disloyalty to one's country, and both of these the library may help to dispel from the foreigner.

In the 25 years ending with 1895 one-third of the increase of our population was from foreign immigration; great numbers of these were paupers and illiterates, who join the ranks of the anarchists and learn to rail against us. If these foreigners become insane, we care for them in our hospitals; if they become criminal, we pay for bringing them to justice and keeping up the machinery of reformatories and prisons. The public funds are drawn upon continually in their behalf. It is certainly just as legitimate a use of public funds that some of it be used by the public library for the elevation of these same men and women. The money spent in foreign literature may mean just that much less for prisons and asylums. It is the ounce of prevention.

We are accustomed to use all of our ingenuity to attract to our libraries the illiterate of our own race; we urge the children to come, and allure them with picture-books and pleasant

rooms; we want the newsboy and the factory girl, but we want also the maids in our kitchens and the foreign laborer who digs on our streets. Every reason which justifies our efforts to attract in the one instance does in the other, and if foreign literature is the bait which will draw the foreign element, then it is as legitimate as any attraction that we use.

One objection urged against the purchase of books in foreign languages is that we exclude from 75 to 80 per cent. of the readers from using the book, but that might be said of almost any class in the library. Why purchase technical books, or professional books, or rare and valuable books? for fully 80 per cent. of the readers will be excluded from using them. It cannot be a wrong to these 80 per cent. of readers that the other 20 per cent. are getting what they want. It is for the benefit of the whole community that every part of it should be enlightened.

But the library, while having obligations to the state in the way of making good citizens, and to the community to spend the funds legitimately, has obligations also toward the individual. There are strangers within our city gates to whom we owe hospitalities and whose lives we can cheer. How many times do we hear of the loneliness of these people who have been transplanted, and how their loneliness drives them into morbidness and to the verge of insanity. Their mental growth is stopped and their lives stagnated. The library owes something to every individual man, woman and child. The library has no better cause for existence than to bring sunshine into individual lives, and it has not wholly fulfilled its mission if it leaves whole masses of people unreached.

It would be more difficult to reach any conclusion as to where a library shall draw the line in providing for different nationalities. The state of library finances usually settles the fact that there must be a line. We cannot do all that we would do, and different conditions make the problem different in every library.

In theory, even if not possible in practice, it would seem that any nationality which had a desire for the books and interest and enterprise enough to ask for them ought to have them, even if it must be in small quantities. The very asking is the furnishing of an opportunity. If we do not have to seek them in the highways and hedges, but find them actually knocking at the door, they surely ought to have a seat at the feast. This might be impracticable

and even impossible in many libraries, but up to the present date the Minneapolis Public Library has never refused a request from any nationality, even if the finances allowed but a small outlay. We believe that by this means of drawing them to us we will amalgamate them most rapidly, and by contact will dissolve race prejudice.

To sum up, we believe that the buying of foreign literature will help rather than hinder to foster Americanism. We believe that it is a legitimate use of public funds, and that it meets a duty which we actually owe to these strangers. We believe, also, that it is true of libraries, as of individuals, that "He liveth best who loveth best."

NOTES ON BOOKBINDING.

BY GERTRUDE ELSTNER WOODARD, *Michigan State Normal College Library, Ypsilanti.*

It may be well to state at the outset that this paper does not aim to be a treatise on bookbinding, nor does it claim to give full directions for doing the work. Those who wish to attempt the binding of books for themselves will find full information as to the various steps and processes in the most excellent books on the subject—Crane's "Bookbinding for amateurs" and Zaehnsdorf's "Art of bookbinding."

What is intended is to set forth as clearly as may be my own experience as to the durability and value of different kinds of bindings, the faults commonly met in binding and the reasons and remedies for the same. Also to give a few hints as to what may be done in the way of caring for the more simple cases of repairing in the library.

The object of giving personal experience is that by this means it is hoped to call forth from both librarians and bookbinders who may read this article their own experience, and by free discussion and criticism allow all to derive considerable profit therefrom.

It ought to be unnecessary to say that the first processes of bookbinding, namely, sawing the backs to admit cords and sewing, determine the strength and durability of the book, and yet this cannot be too strongly emphasized. Every one who has handled books for any length of time must have noticed that the first signs of wear are indicated by loose leaves, the breaking of the back and the tearing of the book away from the book-cover. To bring the subject before you the primary steps in binding must be noted.

The printed sheets as they come from the press are folded into folios, quartos, etc., as the case demands. Each sheet thus folded is called a section. These sections are rolled or beaten to make them compact and collated or

arranged in consecutive order as to paging. Then they are made even at the back and head and placed in a vise to be sawed. This is the first evil which comes to a book. Sawing ought not to be done, but for the sake of cheapness is used almost exclusively for ordinary work. If books must be sawed the cuts should be just deep enough to easily admit the cords and should be carefully shaped. Cuts for kettle or catch stitches at each end of the sections are straight cuts. Too deep sewing makes the book rigid and it will not open easily. Sawing in any manner decreases the wearing capacity of the paper.

Books may be sewn in two ways:

1. Without saw-cuts, when the cords rest against the back of the sections and the thread passes completely around the cord, making a raised band, which gives a strong back. This is known as "flexible" sewing. The ideal book is sewed in this way, but as it is three or four times as expensive as the way yet to be mentioned it is rarely used for ordinary work. Or,
2. With saw-cuts, when the cords are laid in the cuts and the thread merely passes over them as a loop. The thread in this case might be passed *around* the cord, but I rarely find it so done.

Sections may be sewn "all along," "two on" or "three on." In sewing "all along" the thread passes inside of each section throughout its full length to within one inch of each end. Always have a book sewed in this way if possible. It is possible when sections are composed of more than four leaves. When sections have four or less leaves there would be too much thread in the back if sewn "all along" and the back would be thicker than the rest of the book. In such cases "two on" is allowable. In sewing "two on" the thread

passes in at the kettle-stitch hole, runs inside the section to the first saw-cut, out and around the cord and up into the second section, running inside this section to the next saw-cut, out and around the cord, back into the same saw-cut, running to the next saw-cut, out and around the cord and down to the first section in the saw-cut, running inside the first section to the kettle-stitch hole, out and up into the third section. In this way two sections are sewn at one time, and it will be seen that in the first section the middle portion is not fastened to the middle cord, and that in the second section each end of the section is loose, the thread fastening only the centre portion of the section. There is nothing but the thread to hold these leaves in place, for the paste or glue which is put on the back of the book touches only the outside leaf of each section, except at the saw-cuts, where the glue may sink in and touch the other leaves slightly. It will be easily seen, therefore, that the correct style of sewing a book is of prime importance. No less important is the evenness of the sewing. The threads must be drawn in a uniform tightness, so that some leaves will not slip out beyond others, and so that all sections shall receive like pressure and strain. Too loose sewing allows sections to fall apart and show saw-cuts. Too tight sewing tears paper. Kettle-stitches should not be tight enough to make ends of sections tighter than the middle.

Tapes are often substituted for cords—for example, in Gardiner's "Student's history of England." It is a very durable way of sewing. We have had two Gardiners come out of their cases, but in good condition as to sewing and ready to be put into new cases. Parchment strips are also good substitutes for cords. Tape sewing should be used more than it is. We are using it for books like the "Century dictionary" and "Poole's index," which will be referred to later.

Many books are now being sewed by machinery without cords. Some persons have found them satisfactory. I have had but little experience with such sewing as yet and am not favorably inclined toward it. The cases which have come under my observation have been too loosely sewed and the backs have not been firmly lined. The absence of cords withdraws a support which has not been made up for by strong lining.

For wire sewing I have no use save for temporary pamphlet and magazine work. The

wire rusts, tears out and leaves no possibility of replacing a loose section by any other means than entire resewing.

For newspaper work the process known as "butchering" or "fiddling" has been found a fairly satisfactory substitute for sewing. It is cheaper and quite as durable as most of the sewing we get, but the volume does not open so well. A better way is to stitch half a dozen sections along the back on a sewing-machine and then sew "all along" in the usual manner.

A general rule for the number of cords on which a book is to be sewed may be stated as follows:

18mo,	2 cords,	"all along,"	fine thread.
12mo,	2 "	" "	" "
8vo,	3 or 4 cords,	"two on."	
4to,	5 cords,	"three on."	

If trimming is to be done, now is the time for it, but the less trimming the better for the book. I have an understanding with our binder never to trim unless so ordered. If a book must be trimmed, let it be a mere shave, just to give a fresh, clean look to the edge and prevent dust from adhering to the leaves.

Now a coat of hot (not lukewarm) glue is given the back and the book is allowed to stand until partially dry but still flexible. The "rounding and backing" process then commences. Great skill is needed here, for the back must be of a true roundness, both for beauty and strength, and the blows of the hammer must be flat against the back of the book, else dents will be made and cords broken. This part of the forwarding is acquired only by experience. A hump-shaped back is to be avoided, and the back to be used is in the shape of a third of a circle. Flat backs are apt to become concave after use. The outside sections of the book against which the millboards are to be fitted must be turned with mathematical exactness, or the hinges will be loose and ungainly and the book will not stay closed properly.

The boards must be cut true, or the book will not stand up straight on the shelf and will have a decidedly lop-sided appearance. Thin sheets of metal are being used to some extent in the place of boards. I have had no experience with them as yet. The boards should be just large enough to protect the leaves of the book. If too large, the book, when stand-

ing, tends to sag between the covers, which racks and loosens the case at the back.

Now the back is given a coat of paste to soften superfluous glue, that it may be more easily removed. All glue except that between the sections is superfluous. Then comes the question of tight or loose back. While the tight back is more durable as regards the life of a book, it is detrimental to the appearance of the volume, as the constant opening and shutting causes the leather to wrinkle and the lettering to crack and become unreadable. The loose or open back for beauty, the tight back for strength. Morocco is the only binding which is satisfactory for tight back, as it does not show the creasing badly for some time.

A combination has been tried by which the back of the book is lined with split leather; over the leather is put linen book-cloth instead of the customary "super" or cheese-cloth. Both linen and leather should be cut large enough to admit of pasting firmly down on the boards, thus making a durable hinge. The true case is made loose from the back, as usual.

We have had several volumes of the "Century dictionary" (6-vol. ed.) bound in this manner. The books are bound in full golden brown linen, the backs are lined with split leather, which is in turn covered with book-linen, the sewing is done on tapes, and cloth hinges are used. Lettering is in gilt over black stain, put on in the form of a band or label. Price of binding, per volume, 75 cents. It must be stated here that in the binding just mentioned the leather lining does not extend over on the mill boards. That is an improvement which has been tried and was suggested to me by Mr. W. H. Hollands, binder in the University of Michigan Library. We have lately had the first and second supplements to "Poole's index" bound in like manner, and the binding is thus far satisfactory. One volume of the "Century dictionary" was bound in very nearly this way two years ago. It has been lying in the reference-room, where it is in constant use, and as yet shows no evidence of its hard usage.

Just a few words about the cloth joint which is now so commonly used. The description of the joint invented by Mr. Cedric Chivers, of London, is given and illustrated in the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, 12:70. As this joint is somewhat complicated, I will give a brief description of a cloth joint which we use with much success. The first two and last two sections of the book are stitched or sewed each to a strip of linen before

being sewed with the other sections. The strip of linen on the first section (or the one which will be nearest the cover) is two inches wide. It is folded over the outside of the section so that one-half inch is on one side of the section and one and one-half inches on the other side. The second section is sewed to a strip one inch wide, one-half inch on each side of the section. These sections are sewed "all along" and then whipstitched, the remaining sections of the books being sewed in the usual way. When ready for the case the cords of the book are knocked down on the inside of the millboards (covers), over the cords is firmly pasted the one and one-half inch piece of linen, and over the linen is pasted the lining paper. In this way the linen is firmly attached both to the book-covers and to the book-sections, forming a very durable connection. Our binder has directions to use cloth joints in all books unless otherwise specified.

A few words as to the construction of the bookcase may be in place here. The case in cloth-covered books, unlike leather-work, is made all ready for the book to be placed in it. The millboards are cut as true as possible about one-eighth of an inch wider on two ends than the leaves of the book. A piece of cloth is cut out the necessary size to cover the book, allowing one inch on each side for turning in. A slip of paper the width of the back is pasted on the cloth just where the back will come, and the two millboards are laid one on each side of the paper. If all is true and satisfactory, give the inside of the cloth a coat of glue and lay the boards back in position, pressing them firmly down on the glued cloth. Cut the corners of the cloth slanting across, fold cloth in toward the middle of the board, running the folder along the edges to even them. Put in press until dry. Then lay book in case, paste cords and hinges down on inside of boards, and line as described above.

This case-work is now done very rapidly and cheaply by machinery. A book brought to me some days ago broken entirely in two at the middle of the back was sewn on the cheapest and sleaziest of super with wires, and was given a coat of glue one-sixteenth of an inch thick; the super was not fastened well to the boards and was easily pulled away. The case itself was pretty to look at, being machine-stamped and true. The first time the book was opened it snapped in two, not because it was carelessly handled, but because it was poorly and cheaply

made and no part of it was flexible enough to admit of being opened. It was sold for thirty cents.

If the book is to be bound in leather, it is prepared in the same manner as the cloth-bound book so far as the first steps of sawing, sewing, trimming and backing are concerned. Then comes a different process. The uncovered millboards are "laced" to the book—i. e., the cords on which the book is sewed are left long enough to pass through holes punched in the boards. The ends are drawn through these holes just tight enough so that the boards will lie flat when the book is shut. They are pasted and knocked down firmly on the boards instead of being merely pasted against them, as in the case-made book. If the book is to be bound in full leather the leather is cut similar to the cloth in the case-made book. If bound in half (back only) or three-quarters (back and corners) leather, the pieces are cut the required sizes and the edges carefully pared down so that the leather will lie perfectly flat. If the book has been sewn flexible (with raised bands) these bands are made true with pincers. If the cords lie in saw-cuts, false bands of cord or pasteboard are cut and glued to the back in the proper position. Then the leather is put on with paste and worked down over the bands. If an open back is wanted, the back of the book is lined with paper folded so that one side of the fold is glued to the back of the book and the opposite piece is glued to the leather.

As to lettering, I will say but little. The best work is done by machinery, where a heated die burns in the gold in clear-cut and perfectly straight lines. Hand-lettering is always liable

to run crooked. Any crooked or uneven work makes the best-bound book a failure as to beauty. For this reason, the man who does the finishing gets all the credit, and the forwarder receives but little praise, although his work is of equal, perhaps more, importance. The larger and plainer the lettering the better. Use no ornamentation unless to unify with a set. The least possible lettering on the outside of a book the better. Give author (surname only), short title, and editor, translator or commentator if necessary. Periodicals should be lettered with title, year or years, and volume number, as given in "Poole's index." Omit all unnecessary words or signs. For example, letter *The Forum* as follows: Forum. 1897-98. 24. Not The Forum. 1897-1898. Vol. 24. If a periodical is published in series with series volumes, as in case of *Littell's Living Age* this information may be given on the backs of volumes if thought advisable, but as the full volume number is used in Poole it is wiser to follow that.

As to binding material, the librarian should know as much as possible about the relative values as to durability and economy of leathers, cloths, papers, thread, millboards, etc. The following table of prices was submitted to Louis Dejonge & Co., of New York, and was revised and returned with this comment: "Leather is an article difficult to describe in any list, and the price varies with size and quality continually; or, rather, the fact that no two animals have the same kind of a skin causes the price to change." Hence it must be understood that the prices of leather both in the skin and cut are only approximate.

LEATHER.	SIZE OF SKIN.	PRICE.				
		Per doz. skins.	Per skin.	Per sq. ft.	Per 1/4 8vo.	Per 1/2 8vo.
Levant morocco.....	25 x 30 in.	45 00 to 60 00	\$3 75 to \$5 00	\$0 75 to \$1 00	\$0 50 to \$0 66	\$0 37 to \$0 50
Turkey	" "	18 00 " 35 00	1 50 " 2 90	30 " 56	20 " 38	15 " 29
Hausemann Turkey.....	" "	33 00 " 42 00	2 75 " 3 50	35 " 46	26 " 34	20 " 28
Persian morocco.....	" "	12 00 " 22 00	1 00 " 1 83	30 " 36	14 " 24	10 " 18
Thin Persian morocco.....	18 x 30 "	9 00 " 12 00	75 " 1 00	30 " 30	20 " 20	15 " 15
Gros grain Persian.....	25 x 30 "	20 00 " 30 00	1 83 " 2 50	36 " 50	24 " 34	18 " 25
Sheep.....	About ditto.	9 00 " 12 00	75 " 1 00	15 " 20	10 " 14	08 " 11
Russia.....	Varies, is larger than morocco.	15 00 " 60 00	2 90 " 5 00	38 " 1 00	40 " 66	30 " 50
Bock.....	21 x 25 in.	9 50 " 11 00	80 " 90	20 " 25	14 " 16	10 " 12
Roan.....	25 x 30 "	9 00 " 13 00	75 " 1 08	15 " 21	10 " 14	08 " 11
Skiver.....	" "	4 30 " 12 50	36 " 1 05	07 " 21	04 " 11	04 " 11
Im. Fr. and Ger. morocco.....	" "	15 00 " 16 50	1 25 " 1 36	25 " 27	16 " 18	13 " 14
American Russia.....	Sides, 20 sq. ft.			18 " 16	08 " 10	06 " 08
Buffing.....	Hides, 40 "			09 " 11	06 " 08	05 " 06
Pigskin.....	About 12 "	75 00	6 25	52		

CLOTH.	Yards per roll.	Price per yard.	Width.	Price per sq. ft.	Price per 8vo.	
Buckram, cotton.....	40	\$0 20	37 in.	\$0 02	\$0 03
Buckram, linen.....	40	60	36 to 38 in.	07	10
Duck.....	About 50	10 to \$0 20	37 " 41 "	01 to 03	02
Holliston.....	40	30	36 in.	02	03 to 04
Book-cloth, common.....	38	12 " 20	36 "	02 "	02 "	04
Hayes thread.....		90 " 10 per lb.				
Gold leaf.....		7 25 per package of 500 sheets.				
Millboard.....	<div style="display: inline-block; vertical-align: middle;"> 20 x 30 in. 22 x 28 " 25 x 30 " 25 x 38 " etc. </div>	02 to \$0 06 per lb., according to quality.				

The 8vo used for this estimate is a volume of the *Philosophical Review* which is three inches thick.

A $\frac{3}{4}$ bound 8vo will require 96 sq. in. or $\frac{2}{3}$ sq. ft. on an average. A $\frac{1}{2}$ bound 8vo will require 72 sq. in. or $\frac{1}{2}$ sq. ft. on an average. A full cloth or leather bound 8vo will require 216 sq. in. or a piece of material 18 by 12 in.

The difference in cost of binding books in cloth or leather is as follows: All items in bookbinding up to the time when the covering is to be put on are the same no matter what the covering is to be. The lettering and finishing will average the same. It will then be seen that the difference in cost lies in the respective prices of the covering materials used. It has been attempted to show in the table above the average prices of leather and cloth for the volumes. Estimating the amount of material per sq. ft. needed to cover a volume and adding the prices of forwarding and finishing (which are fixed prices) will give a fairly correct result, as follows:

Preparation for sewing costs.....	\$.03
Sewing costs.....	.05
Forwarding (rounding, backing, etc.)....	.30
Leather ($\frac{3}{4}$ Haussmann Turkey).....	.36
Sundries. (Thread, end papers, lining paper, paper for sides, millboards, gold leaf, etc.).....	.11
Lettering and finishing.....	.10
	—
	.95

This is the cost of binding the *Philosophical Review*.

Our binding is done according to a schedule of prices furnished by our binder, as follows:

$\frac{3}{4}$ morocco, 8 inches and below.....	\$.75
" " 11 " " down to 8 in....	.95
" " above 11 inches.....	1.25
$\frac{1}{2}$ sheep and roan, 11 inches and over....	1.00
" " " " below 11 inches.....	.75
" " newspapers.....	1.75

Full cloth, with titles, up to and including

11 inches..... \$.50

Full cloth, above 11 inches to 16 inches.75

" " " 16 " 1.00

" " pamphlets, thin, without title,

but with paper label on side, not printed .30

Resewing and replacing in old cover40

Replacing in old cover without resewing . . .30

For expensive books and to unify with sets we use genuine morocco. For repair of ordinary books which have had hard usage we bind in golden brown linen and dark red and dark green Holliston. Our binder furnishes us with a small sample book of the materials which he has in stock. These samples are numbered, and the binding desired is indicated on binding directions by that number. Any material not carried in stock is ordered at request. We have dummies for the periodicals. The dummy consists of a piece of millboard on one side of which is the leather lettered and banded like the set, and on the other side the cloth or paper used for the side covering is pasted. These dummies are sent with the volumes to be bound.

As to binding directions: Most binders prefer these directions to be written all on one paper, numbered with a consecutive binding number. This sheet of paper can be filed where it is easily seen, and books to be "rushed" can be finished and returned at once. Of course a duplicate of this is retained for reference in the library. My own preference, and the way which we have followed for several years, is to use a strip of paper eight inches long by three and one-quarter inches wide. On this strip are printed: Michigan State Normal College. Binding No. Accession No. Vols. at price. Sent. Returned. Style.

This lettering takes up two inches at the top of the paper. The remainder of the strip is divided into five parts by lines corresponding to the bands of a book. In the spaces thus

made is indicated the lettering desired and its location on the back of the book. By using carbon paper two of these slips may be written at one time. One is sent with the volume to the binder and one is retained in the library, where it may be filed alphabetically by author or numerically by binding number. In this way books may be sent from the bindery in large or small lots as desired. When book directions are sent to bindery all on one sheet it is customary to require all volumes so entered to be returned in the same lot as sent and not to pay bills until such return is made. I have found it more convenient to indicate books which are to be "rushed" and have them returned together with bill for the lot returned. In this way the binder is not kept waiting for his pay and the library can have needed books repaired with less delay. When a book is returned its binding slip is removed from the file, the binding number and other necessary entries are made in the book and on the slip, the latter is filed away, the bill is checked and all information is complete. I always keep a duplicate of bills and enter the binding numbers against their books on this duplicate bill.

Ordinary book-cloth tears easily, frays out on the edges, and is generally not satisfactory.

Duck roughens, catches dust, sticks to the book next it on the shelf, especially if its neighbor is also bound in duck. It is cheaper than other cloth, and is very durable. There is a smooth-finished duck, several specimens of which we have, and which has worn well.

Buckram does not take gilt lettering well; ink lettering sinks in and does not show. This can be remedied to some extent by first staining a band on the cloth before lettering. The porousness of the cloth, however, makes it difficult to apply a stain which will retain its color. Gilt lettering is used over the stain. Buckram also seems to become brittle after a time.

The Holliston book-cloths, so far as I have been able to observe them, give excellent satisfaction in every way. We have *Outing* and *St. Nicholas* put up in full dark green and dark red Holliston, respectively. The lettering and banding is done by machinery, and the sets are very pretty to look at, and I hope will be as durable as pretty. They have been too lately bound to make any definite statements. The *Critic* has been put up (an entire file) in the golden-brown linen

mentioned above, but that, too, has been done lately as an experiment.

Paper covering for the sides of leather-bound books is preferable to cloth, as it slides against other books more easily and can be replaced when worn.

It is economy, as a rule, to buy books in paper or in cloth and bind to suit the needs of the library. We paid \$60 for the "Century dictionary" (6-volume edition), and have had the volumes rebound, as heretofore described, for 75 c. per volume. It does as well for our use, apparently, as if we had bought the sheep set for \$90, and we have saved \$25.

Lining papers are more satisfactory if of white or gray paper, rather than green, which turns a dirty yellow after a time. The dark smooth papers so often used become smutty and soil book-plates.

Leather may be softened and cleaned with vaseline or lard. Cloth may also be cleaned with vaseline, but the book-cloth must not be scraped or rubbed hard. Use a soft cloth and work lightly.

Paste and glue used together are stronger than either used alone.

When one volume of a set wears out while the others are still in good condition the worn volume may be given a new back of material like its own, and the old back containing the lettering can be mounted on the new material, thus preserving the uniformity of the set. This may be done with both leather and cloth.

Color schemes in binding, while they may be valuable in some cases, are not advised. 100 books all bound in the same shade of blue do not retain their individuality except as to size, and a book misplaced on a shelf is not as easily found as it would be were it bound in its original color. Librarians come to know books by their color and size. When the class and Cutter numbers are used there may be less objection to the color scheme, but then each label has to be examined to find the lost or misplaced book.

A fairly good cheap binding may be had for pamphlets and little-used books as follows: Prepare and sew books as usual. Mount paper covers of book on the millboards, line the boards, and for the back of the book use linen book-cloth, on which the author and title may be printed in ink.

Manila-rope paper may be used for covering

pamphlets and current periodicals. Linen cloth, pasted over a well-sewed book without the use of millboards, will do fairly to protect pamphlets of an ephemeral nature.

Maps and plates should be backed with muslin, or at least mounted on cloth guards, before being sewn into a book.

It would be a great accommodation to librarians and bookbinders if publishers of periodicals would page indexes of volumes, so as to follow consecutively the volume proper. If the title-page and contents table (if there is one) could be struck off on a section ready to place at the beginning of a volume, and if the index were placed to directly follow the last page of the volume proper, much time and vexation would be saved. Indexes and title-pages are often put in with advertising matter or sent under separate cover, and become lost or torn, and some never come at all unless written for.

When mending torn pages or inserting loose leaves use nothing but flour paste. Mucilage and gummed paper are often used, much to the vexation of the binder, for they cause trouble in rebinding. The recipe for flour paste here given will fill a two-ounce receptacle. It should be thick enough to be cut into slices with a knife, and should be kept in a wooden cup or box. In ordinary temperature it will keep for about two weeks. It is easily and quickly made, and should be on the desk of every librarian.

PASTE.

- A. { 1 tablespoonful flour in cup.
- { 1 tablespoonful cold water in cup.
- B. { 4 tablespoonfuls cold water in pan.
- { ½ teaspoonful powdered alum in pan.

Mix A until perfectly smooth. Heat B to boiling. Pour B slowly on A, stirring always in same direction. Pour all back into pan and heat, stirring until thick.

If book-sewing is well understood, loose sections may be replaced, if the cords are not broken, by finding the ends of the broken thread, tying a new piece of thread to one end, sewing the sections in as if on the sewing-bench, and tying to the other end of the broken thread.

A transparent adhesive paper, made by A. I. Woodbury & Co., of Boston, is excellent for mending torn pages where "scarfing" is impossible. This latter process is somewhat difficult to do well, and space will not be taken to

explain details. They may be found in either of the books referred to above.

The question often comes as to how to remove ink stains from books. Various remedies are given and have more or less value according as they are intelligently applied. The following experiment was made with an ink stain of some months' standing. The stain was on a dark green morocco leather and was thoroughly dried in. One part of crystals of oxalic acid was put into a test tube and two parts of water were added. This was dissolved by holding for a few minutes over a Bunsen burner. After the crystals were dissolved the liquid was allowed to cool. The leather stained was thoroughly saturated with the acid by means of a soft clean rag (white). This was followed by an equally thorough washing with pure water. After this the leather was saturated with pure chloroform. The acid was intended to remove the ink, the water to remove the acid and prevent the leather from being eaten, the chloroform to remove any possible stain left by the acid. All three agents were chemically clean, the cloths used were clean, and at no time was the leather rubbed so as to destroy the grain. I have not as yet found any satisfactory agent which will remove ink stains from cloth-covered books without also removing the color from the cloth.

Chlorinated soda applied to an ink stain immediately after an accident will be found to be fairly effectual as regards white cloth and paper, dress goods, etc., but it is of no use after the ink has dried. The soda should be washed off with water immediately after application.

In conclusion, visit your binder and ask him to give you a small sample book of the materials he uses. Learn to know the different leathers and cloths and what are their weak and strong points. If you ever have an opportunity, go into a bindery and arrange with the binder to give you lessons every day for a week or two. Learn to bind a book yourself. Then you will be in a position to appreciate the difficulties of the work, can give binding directions more intelligently, and you will be more in sympathy with the man who does your binding. You can only learn to know when binding is well or badly done by being able to do the work yourself and knowing the weak points in the construction of the book.

STATISTICS OF A. L. A. MEMBERSHIP.

CAREFUL analysis of the roster of the American Library Association during its 22 years of existence brings to light some facts of general interest, not only in their personal aspect, but in their relation to the development of the association. Such an analysis of A. L. A. membership, extending from the organization conference of 1876 to March, 1898, has been made by Mrs. Henry J. Carr—long recognized as the A. L. A. archivist, *ex-officio*—and is here presented, as a contribution of value to the history of the A. L. A. Several of Mrs. Carr's statistical tables we reproduce in full; others by their form are precluded from such reproduction, and the facts set forth in them must be stated in words rather than in figures.

The actual "live" membership of the American Library Association in March, 1898, was 793. Of these, 655 have been present at one or more conferences, 111 have never attended any conference, and 27 represent library (institution) memberships, not regularly represented at conferences by some delegate. It will probably surprise many to know that so considerable a percentage of the present members have never practically identified themselves with the association by attendance at conferences, but it is more curious to note how definitely the conferences stand forth as the links that hold the membership together—as evidenced by the 655 persons who have remained members ever since their first attendance at a meeting. Since 1876 there have been a total of 1693 members enrolled, of whom 1221 have attended conferences; 556 of these 1221 were never at any meeting subsequent to the one first attended, and their memberships probably lapsed soon afterwards; 59 members are known to have died during the period October, 1876—March, 1898. It will be seen that of the 1693 enrolled there are 472 not recorded at conferences; among these must be counted the 111 members still remaining, who have been thus delinquent, and the 27 present library memberships, leaving 234 others who during 22 years have been members of the association but have not been represented at its conferences; among these 234 there are probably a number of institution memberships that are not now in force. This is an interesting illustration of the importance of the conferences in vitalizing and developing the association, and the same fact is again shown by the statistics of conference attendances. The total registered attendance at the conferences (excluding the two London meetings) is given as 2990, of whom 2576 were members of the association. Allowing for the 556 members who attended only one conference, this shows interestingly what may be called the extent of the "turn-over" of conference attendance among members.

The following table shows the actual growth of the association during each year and for the entire period:

GROWTH AND ENDURANCE OF THE A. L. A.

Year.	Membership accessions. Registration nos.	Added each year.	Remaining as members in 1898.
1876	No. 1-69	69	54
1877	" 70-122	53	10
1878	" 123-196	74	30
1879	" 197-385	189	25
1880	" 386-397	12	3
1881	" 398-413	16	4
1882	" 414-454	41	5
1883	" 455-470	16	10
1884	" 471-476	6	8
1885	" 477-513	37	18
1886	" 514-594	81	19
1887	" 595-700	106	30
1888	" 701-725	25	7
1889	" 726-771	46	23
1890	" 772-884	113	43
1891	" 885-939	55	30
1892	" 940-1081	142	65
1893	" 1082-1230	149	86
1894	" 1231-1315	85	44
1895	" 1316-1377	62	39
1896	" 1378-1550	173	168
1897-8	" 1551-1693	143	138
		1693	793

Perhaps the most notable feature of this table is its exhibition of the strength and deep influence of the original conference, which, with due allowance for its date, outranks all others in the proportion of its members who are still active in the association. Of the 69 members of 1876, 63 were present at the original conference, 12 have died, and 24 are still in the ranks.

The record of attendance at the successive conferences, with the proportion of present members attending each, is shown in the following table:

CONFERENCES AMERICAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

Held at	Dates.	Total attendance.	Present members attended.
Philadelphia.....	Oct. 4-6, 1876.....	103	28
New York.....	Sept. 4-6, 1877.....	66	21
* London.....	October, 1877.....	21	9
Boston.....	June 30-July 2, 1879.	162	54
Washington.....	Feb. 9-12, 1881.....	70	26
Cincinnati.....	May 24-27, 1882.....	47	12
Buffalo.....	Aug. 14-17, 1883.....	72	36
Lake George.....	Sept. 8-11, 1885.....	87	54
Milwaukee.....	July 7-10, 1886.....	133	48
Thousand Islands.....	Aug. 30-Sept. 2, 1887	186	77
Catskill Mts.....	Sept. 25-28, 1888.....	32	20
St. Louis.....	May 8-11, 1889.....	106	61
Fabyans, (White Mts.).	Sept. 9-13, 1890.....	242	117
San Francisco.....	Oct. 12-16, 1891.....	83	42
Lakewood, Baltimore & Washington.....	May 16-21, 1892.....	260	141
Chicago.....	July 13-22, 1893.....	311	168
Lake Placid, N. Y.....	Sept. 17-22, 1894.....	205	146
Denver.....	Aug. 13-21, 1895.....	147	77
Cleveland.....	Sept. 1-8, 1896.....	363	295
Philadelphia.....	June 21-25, 1897.....	315	244
* London.....	July 13-16, 1897.....	93	59

* Not strictly A. L. A.

The third table is in some respects the most interesting of all, for it gives what may be called the championship record of conference attendances, in which Mr. Cutter holds first place, with Mr. Green a close second. Among

the women members Mrs. Carr and Mrs. Fairchild lead. The table, however, speaks for itself most effectively. It is as follows:

NO. CONFERENCES THAT PRESENT MEMBERS HAVE ATTENDED.

- 17 conferences (and Lond. '97). — 1. C. A. Cutter.
 17 conferences (and Lond. '97). — 1. S. S. Green.
 15 conferences (and Lond. '97). — 1. Melvil Dewey.
 15 conferences. — 2. Henry J. Carr; W. I. Fletcher.
 14 conferences. — 1. W. E. Foster.
 13 conferences (and Lond. '97). — 1. Dr. E. J. Nolan.
 13 conferences. — 1. W. T. Peoples.
 12 conferences (and Lond. '97). — 3. R. R. Bowker; F. M. Crunden; H. M. Utley.
 12 conferences. — 2. J. N. Larned; C. C. Soule.
 11 conferences (and Lond. '97). — 2. W. S. Biscoe; G. E. Stechert.
 11 conferences. — 3. Mrs. Henry J. Carr; Mrs. S. C. Fairchild; C. A. Nelson.
 10 conferences (and Lond. '97). — 1. Mrs. Melvil Dewey.
 10 conferences. — 2. Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf; A. L. Peck.
 9 conferences (and Lond. '97). — 2. F. P. Hill; Rev. H. F. Jenks.
 9 conferences. — 8. W. H. Brett; H. E. Davidson; C. R. Dudley; J. Edmonds; Miss M. E. Sargent; Mrs. M. E. Saunders; A. W. Tyler; J. N. Wing.
 8 conferences (and Lond. '97). — 2. Miss N. E. Browne; Miss C. M. Hewins.
 8 conferences. — 10. Weston Flint; Miss C. H. Garland; R. A. Guild; Miss S. C. Hagar; G. W. Harris; Prof. G. T. Little; F. C. Patten; Miss M. W. Plummer; E. C. Richardson; Dr. G. E. Wile.
 7 conferences (and Lond. '97). — 7. E. M. Barton; G. W. Cole; Miss Fannie Hull; Miss H. F. James; G. M. Jones; Miss M. F. Southworth; J. L. Whitney.
 7 conferences. — 4. G. H. Baker; A. N. Brown; Mrs. O. B. Jaquith; B. P. Mann.
 6 conferences (and Lond. '97). — 3. Miss M. E. Ahern; W. C. Lane; Miss H. G. Sheldon.
 6 conferences. — 16. S. H. Berry; I. S. Bradley; W. Beer; M. Chamberlain; Miss E. E. Clarke; J. C. Dana; F. H. Hild; Miss A. C. Hitchcock; W. Ives; Mrs. B. P. Mann; T. L. Montgomery; Miss J. A. Rathbone; Miss A. L. Sargent; W. K. Stetson; Prof. A. Van Name; A. W. Whelpley.

These statistics should prove of general interest and suggestiveness, and the thanks of the A. L. A. are certainly due to Mrs. Carr for their compilation, which, though a labor of love, was no less a labor requiring time and effort.

TRAVELLING LIBRARY EXTENSION.

WITHIN the past few months the travelling library movement has made its way in four widely separated regions. In New Jersey, Alabama, Kansas, and British Columbia effective steps have been taken to establish the system, or at least to arouse public interest in its establishment.

In New Jersey the failure to secure a state library commission has placed the travelling library work in the hands of a special committee of the state library association, whose plans are noted elsewhere (*see* p. 247). In this state also the passage of an act authorizing a travelling library system, to be conducted under the auspices of the state library, has awakened public interest in the subject, although the absence of any provision for an appropriation for the work makes its practical effectiveness rather problematical.

In Alabama, travelling libraries were the main topic discussed by the state federation of women's clubs at its recent session. A report on the subject was presented by Mrs. Willhoyte, of Sheffield, who made an earnest plea for the

establishment of the system in Alabama. As a result an Alabama Travelling Library Association has been organized, under the auspices of the federation, with Mrs. Willhoyte as its moving spirit, and efforts are being made to secure headquarters for the work in Montgomery. A beginning in this direction had already been made by Miss Julia Tutwiler, of Livingston, Ala., who in a letter to a member of the federation says: "Several years ago I began sending travelling libraries in a very small way myself, and have sent out three, each containing 50 volumes, and gave them into the charge of girls who go to teach in neighborhoods where most families have no books except a Bible, almanac, and perhaps a dictionary. They are to be kept for a year or two in that neighborhood, then returned and exchanged for others. My plan is my own, and a very simple one. Some of the young teachers who have studied here have taught in school-houses where there were not only no black-boards or desks, but no windows, the house being lighted in summer through the large cracks and the open door, and in winter from the pine fire on the hearth. A loan library of genuine children's books would come like an angel in such a community."

In Kansas also the state federation of women's clubs has taken steps toward establishing travelling libraries. At the convention held in Wichita early in May an organization was effected, and the first collection ever taken in the history of the federation—amounting to \$6.03—was for this work. A number of books were also pledged. It was decided that the matter be brought before the next legislature with the purpose of securing official headquarters in the state library and of obtaining state aid in developing the work. The chairman of the committee in charge is Mrs. W. A. Johnstone, of Topeka.

Perhaps the most interesting and gratifying of these recent movements, however, is that undertaken by the Provincial Government for British Columbia. Mr. R. E. Gosnell, Provincial Librarian of Victoria, B. C., issued on May 2 a circular on the subject, in which he says: "Acting under the instructions of the executive, travelling libraries are being sent out to the following organizations: Farmers' institutes, mining camps, rural communities, village communities. These libraries have been selected with great care, and consist of collections of books relating to agriculture, mining, forestry, and works of history, biography, travel, natural science, etc. The movement is educational, the object being to place the best reading in the homes which are remote from the large cities and towns. There is no fee, but communities petitioning for a library pay the cost of one case. A petition duly signed, as required by the rules, must be received accompanied by \$6, to cover cost of the case, in order that a library may be forwarded."

A grant of \$1000 has been made by the government of British Columbia for the establishment of this system of travelling libraries, which is closely modelled upon the methods

followed in New York, Wisconsin, and other states of the Union "in which library work has reached a high state of development." The libraries are sent on the petition of 25 adults in any community who agree to defray cost of transportation, to provide a suitable custodian, and to forward the library at the end of three months to its next stopping-place. In addition, "as a number of cases are required, and the appropriation is limited, every petition must be accompanied by the cost of the case—\$6; but no community will ever be required to pay for more than one. In case a library for any reason cannot be forwarded, the money will be refunded; and in the event of there being a greater number of applications than can be filled, the locality which is the most suitable will be selected." All interested are asked to aid by contributing books or magazines to the collection.

TWO GOOD IDEAS.

A DEPARTURE which has seemed to please the patrons of this library was instituted last year, it being the privilege accorded the public of renewing books by telephone or postal card. The telephone privilege has been used largely, and the plan has given complete satisfaction. It causes little or no more work on the part of the attendants than would be entailed were the books or cards brought to the library. Readers, however, are saved the long walk from their homes or places of business up the library hill. In renewing books by telephone it is required that the applicant for the privilege give name, number of card, book call-number, and date issued. The attendant answering the telephone pencils these on "renewal slips," printed on yellow paper to distinguish them from fine slips (which in this library are printed on pink paper). The slips are as follows:

RENEWAL SLIP.

Card No.
Name.....
Book.....
Date issued.
Date renewed

PHONE MAIL

At the first quiet period at the delivery-desk the book slip is looked up and to it is strapped the renewal slip, the date of renewal having been stamped thereon. They are then placed with the slips of books issued during the day. The following morning, after counting, they are placed back in the slip tray under the date originally issued. When the book is returned the card shows the date issued, the yellow slip has prevented a fine slip being attached, and the card is cleared as ordinarily. Not a single hitch has occurred in the working of the plan.

To overcome the difficulty of reaching people who for any reason were diffident about coming to the library and asking for application blanks, a neat, inexpensive hanging box, made of straw board covered with black paper, was devised, a poster on the front containing the following:

Free Public Library,

TENTH AND SYLVANIE STREETS,

Books Loaned Free.

Take one of these applications, fill it out, have some real estate owner sign as your guarantor, then bring it to the library and books will be loaned you without charge.

Library open from 8.30 a.m. to 9 p.m.

These boxes, filled with blank applications, have been placed in the larger factories, shops, and stores, and the result has proven entirely satisfactory. As soon as the spring examinations in the schools are passed a box will be placed in each school building, in charge of the principal, and short talks will be made to the pupils, explaining the library and its use, and it is hoped in this way to greatly reduce the percentage of pupils in the schools not using the library. A sample box will be sent to any library on receipt of 10 cents to cover cost and postage.

PURD B. WRIGHT,
Free Public Library, St. Joseph, Mo.

LIBRARY POSTCARDS.

FOR the last 20 years I have at intervals undertaken to induce the post-office department to stop their constant variations in the size of postcards and use the library standard, 7.5 by 12.5 cm., which was originally established from the dimensions of the card then used. The present administration has realized the practical importance of uniform sizes, not merely for libraries, but for the thousands of business houses and individuals who are using the card-system for all kinds of records and who have constant occasion to file postcards with other material. I have before me an official notice from Washington that, acting on my suggestion, they have adopted the library size, given in the *U. S. Postal Guide* for December, 1897, at the top of p. 13, as K, which they say has been adopted to conform to the size employed by librarians and others for indexing by the card system. The first 25,000,000 have already been ordered of the contractor, 4,000,000 being sent to the Troy (N. Y.) sub-agency. Every one who appreciates the great practical value of having the cards conform to this standard size, which is rapidly spreading all over the civilized world, should make it a point to order, as he may from any postmaster, this size K, which they record as 2½ by 4½ in.; i.e., ⅛ of an inch less each way than the 3 by 5 measure. He

should insist on this size, not alone for cards that he knows are going into his files, but for every use, for he never knows when the card may contain something to be preserved in the file of some correspondent, who will be compelled to trim down or recopy the card if either of the other sizes be used. If each of the thousands of users of this standard postal size will himself use and tell his friends why they should use this size, the result will be its establishment as a permanent standard for the U. S. Post-office Department.

MELVIL DEWEY.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF AUSTRALASIA.

THE Library Association of Australasia, organized in Melbourne in April, 1896, will hold its first formal conference in Sydney, N. S. W., in September, 1898. The organization meeting of the association was reported at the time in these columns (L. J. 21: 275; 22: 90), and its progress is a matter of interest and satisfaction to library workers elsewhere. The executive officers of the association are: President, Hon. Dr. Norton, M.L.C., president of the trustees of the Public Library of New South Wales; Hon. secretary, H. C. L. Anderson, M.A., principal librarian of the Public Library of New South Wales; Hon. treasurer, Prof. M. W. MacCallum, Sydney University. At the organization meeting it was resolved that the first general conference should be held in Sydney, and in the spring of 1897 Mr. Anderson issued a circular inviting libraries in the country districts to join the New South Wales branch of the association. His absence in England in 1897, when he attended the International Conference in London, prevented further steps toward a meeting that year, and it was later determined to hold the conference in September, 1898, on a date which has not yet been announced.

Announcement of these facts, and of the proposed conference, is made in a circular issued by Mr. Anderson, as secretary of the association, who invites all interested to aid in securing a representative attendance at the meeting. "Each member will be afforded an opportunity of reading a paper or suggesting a discussion on any subject of interest to libraries, and a business paper will be framed accordingly."

Among the subjects that have been already suggested for the first meeting are charging systems, library legislation in Australasia, co-operative index to Australian magazines and leading newspapers, use and abuse of fiction in state-aided libraries, educative function of libraries, libraries for public schools, and the juvenile department of a lending library. The special object of the association is stated as being "to unite all persons interested or engaged in library work, for the purpose of promoting the best possible administration of existing libraries and the formation of new ones where desirable."

In connection with the development of organized library activities in Australia it is interest-

ing to note that every town in Victoria possesses a free public library and reading-room, the number being 436, containing more than 610,000 v., besides newspapers and periodicals.

CO-OPERATIVE SELECTION OF HISTORICAL FICTION.

A PLAN to prepare a co-operative finding list of historical fiction has been outlined by the Free Library of Philadelphia, aided by a local committee of high-school teachers. The plan provides for the preparation of a list of books in the English language which are believed to come within the range of historical fiction, using the term in a broad sense, and the perusal of these books by volunteer readers, who shall report upon them, along defined lines, to an editing committee, which shall be charged with the final work of revision and selection. A circular inviting readers to offer their services for this volunteer reading has been issued, and has met with encouraging responses.

The method of reporting has been outlined as follows: Each reader shall report to the committee upon (a) any historical personage introduced as a character; (b) any historical event categorically described—*e.g.*, battle of Waterloo, the massacre of Glencoe, the arrival of the three kings at Jerusalem, the French Revolution, the battle of Germantown, the whiskey insurrection; (c) any historical town, city, or place categorically described—*e.g.*, Prague, Tower of London, Whitefriars, St. Paul's, Hampton Court, Moscow, Christiania, Hudson's Bay; (d) positive and tolerably minute description of the society and manners of a period—*e.g.*, the Scilly Islands ("Armored of Lyonesse"); yachting in Scotland ("White wings"); Holland ("Hans Brinker"); Manx life ("The Manxman"); Southern life ("Uncle Tom's cabin"). Readers shall also use three symbols to denote how largely any historical personages figure in the work. The leading character in any novel would have "pass." (*passim*) after his name to show that he appeared throughout the work. Characters introduced cursorily would have the letters "cur." to indicate the extent to which they are concerned in the book; and a single chapter dealing with an historical character or event would be indicated by the abbreviation "cap." For example, in treating the introduction of Sir Walter Scott in Stevenson's "St. Ives" it would be required to place after Sir Walter Scott "cap.—," as Scott is only introduced in that one chapter. Treating of historical events—*e.g.*, in Erckmann-Chatrian's "Waterloo," "Conscript," etc., the battle of Waterloo would be the historical event and marked "pass." but the battle of Waterloo in "Les misérables" would be "cap.—," as Hugo's description of this battle occurs in one chapter and that one chapter only. The reader would probably have no difficulty in describing "country," "place," or "period."

If this plan is followed out fully and carefully its results can hardly fail to be of wide suggestiveness and interest.

WOMEN ASSISTANTS IN ENGLISH LIBRARIES.

In the May number of the *Library Assistant*, the organ of the English Library Assistants' Association, the subject of women assistants in English libraries is touched upon, and reference is made to the existence of "a sort of mutual distrust" between men and women in the library ranks, "the men thinking that the women only enter on librarianship as a sort of temporary amusement, while the women accuse the men of being jealous of their employment at all." "Of course," the editor continues, "the great objection which men do raise to the employment of women in libraries is that they are employed at salaries very much smaller than a man can afford to work for, while they are physically unfitted for some of the work of a library. A man entering on a profession takes it up seriously, as a lifework, as a means of livelihood, and as a permanent thing: he looks forward to obtaining from it sufficient to afford him a decent livelihood and a fair provision for his family—a woman obviously does not look forward to marrying and settling down on the proceeds of librarianship—hence she can discount the future. There will always be a dislike of the woman librarian by men until the woman librarian frankly accepts the position that she will not work for less wages than a man, and will work side by side with him in the interest of the profession; neither shirking work because she is a woman, nor expecting undue consideration because he is a man. Absolute equality of the sexes as to hours, wages, and work, is what woman nowadays asks for—and no right-thinking man will object to such a demand—but, while the employment of women means a reduction below a fair wage of the rate of pay of assistant librarians, men will object, and object strongly, to women librarians."

As an example of how library work is publicly regarded as a field for women the writer quotes from the "Answers to correspondents" department of the *Queen*, of April 9, in which an inquirer on the subject is informed that "Librarians in this country, whether man or woman, are almost invariably very poorly paid, though in the United States such posts are fairly lucrative. Women are employed in some of the free libraries of the Manchester district . . . the salaries, however, according to the most recent information we possess, are exceedingly small." The writer in the *Queen* continues: "Among the best-paid posts of any are those held in the households of great noblemen. But we have not yet heard of a woman being appointed to any of these. It might be a good plan to go in the first instance, even at a small salary, as saleswoman in a circulating library. The work of women about which you inquire consists mainly in cataloging and in giving out books." The definition of a woman assistant as a "saleswoman in a circulating library" is interesting, and the cutting, as the editor of the *Library Assistant* points out, is "instructive." He concludes by commending to women who desire to enter library work the advice of Mr. Peter

Cowell—"If a young woman on her appointment to a library could bring herself to put all thoughts of marriage into the background, and to regard the winning of her own bread as her first and permanent object, probably greater seriousness and studiousness would acquire for her an honorable reputation in librarianship."

American Library Association.

President: Herbert Putnam, Public Library, Boston, Mass.

Secretary: Melvil Dewey, New York State Library, Albany.

Treasurer: Gardner M. Jones, Public Library, Salem, Mass.

20th General Conference: Lakewood-on-Chautauqua, July 2-11, 1898.

A. L. A. CONFERENCE NOTES.

TWO WEEKS' WORK FOR THE A. L. A.

Things that may be done at any time during the year are apt to be put off and not done at all. I have intentionally waited until just before our meeting to ask every member of the association to make an active effort during the last two weeks to increase our membership and the attendance at Lakewood. A second edition of 1500 copies of the program was needed within five days of publication and many librarians have begun doing their part in inviting trustees, teachers and others interested in library matters to join the A. L. A. and be present at this meeting. The country is full of men and women who would be deeply interested in our work and be a help to us in its advancement if they knew what it was and that they would be welcome. No more important service can be done to the profession, as a whole, or to the local library, than for the librarian to take time to look over the list of his acquaintances and send personal invitations with a copy of the new A. L. A. handbook and the program to all who will probably read and be interested in it. Even if only one in the hundred accepts the invitation the effort will abundantly pay in interesting and informing the other ninety-nine as to A. L. A. objects and methods.

For convenience in this short campaign we have printed a condensed handbook that can be enclosed in letters and also a little leaflet in order to save the time of letter writing. The busiest person has only to address the envelope and enclose this statement to his friends. No man or woman can claim to be thoroughly alive to library interests who is unwilling to spend a little time for two weeks in an active effort to increase our membership and our influence.

We particularly wish to invite trustees to attend this year's meeting. We will send as many extra copies of the program and handbook to each member as he may need for this missionary work and we will send by first mail invitations to such addresses as he will send of people likely to attend the meeting. In every board there are one or more men who probably ought to have these special invitations. What-

ever is to be done should be done without a day's unnecessary delay, and we hope that the demand already coming in by every mail will be greatly increased on the issue of this number of the JOURNAL.

MELVIL DEWEY, *Secretary*.

NOTES ON THE CHAUTAUQUA PROGRAM. REPORTS AND PAPERS.

In order that those who wish to discuss the reports and papers may have the material before them, the most important ones will be printed in advance and distributed at Lakewood.

RAILROAD RATES.

The fare to Lakewood and return is one and one-third of the regular rate one way, which can be learned of any ticket agent at any place. Every person expecting to attend should send word at once to the traveling secretaries—for the east, H. E. Davidson, 530 Atlantic ave., Boston, Mass., and for the west, George B. Meleny, 215 Madison street, Chicago. As the first business session will be Tuesday, July 5, at 9 a.m., those who cannot conveniently come on Saturday, July 2, can reach Lakewood on the evening of July 4. There will be a party via New York Central leaving New York at 8:45 a.m., July 4, on the fast mail, arriving at Lakewood the same evening. From Boston a through sleeper can be taken at 3:00 p.m. via Fitchburg, Albany and Binghamton going directly to Lakewood. The same reduced rate can be had over any road, but it will be pleasanter for members to travel together and will enable us to secure special cars, and if there are enough in one party, a special train and other advantages. The traveling secretaries will send complete information in ample time to every one who asks it.

SOCIAL FEATURES OF PROGRAM.

These are in the hands of the local committee. The program committee have provided for the following outings during the four days of active session: Tuesday, 9 a.m., a steamboat excursion on the lake after a one hour session of the Large Libraries and Elementary Sections; Wednesday, 7 p.m., garden party; Friday, 4:30 p.m., trolley ride and visit to Prendergast Library, Jamestown.

The program is unusually full and the first week will be crowded with actual business. It is expected that considerable important work will be carried over to Saturday. Sessions will begin exactly at 9:30, 3 p.m., and 8 p.m., and speakers and readers will be held strictly to the time assigned, as otherwise it would be simply impossible to cover the ground. The program looks larger than usual because the names of many speakers have been printed, such as have usually spoken during the discussion without being formally included in the program. The names have been printed this year so that there may be no delay in the discussions and that each speaker may have an opportunity to condense his points, thus making a more complete record of the experience and studies of the association.

MELVIL DEWEY, *Secretary*.

PROGRAM.

The program, which has already reached members, differs considerably in its later form from the tentative outline printed in the last number of the JOURNAL. The names of all speakers are not yet announced, but after most topics the names are given of those who will open the discussion. After they have spoken each subject will be thrown open for discussion. There will be very few formal papers. The large number of speakers makes it imperative that each condense his points, so that the meetings will consist largely of short pithy speeches summing up experience and opinions in a way to make them most useful to others.

The chief additions or changes in the program are as follows: The subject "Foreign notes for the 1898 program" will be treated by E. C. Richardson and R. R. Bowker; additional speakers on "Elementary library classes for training assistants" will be Miss E. C. Doren and Charles Orr; speakers on the question "Will the interests of the profession be best served by a few well-equipped schools with strong faculties at central points, or by a large number of smaller schools and classes scattered widely through the country?" are W. H. Brett, W. I. Fletcher, Silas H. Berry, and Miss Anne Wallace; "Library schools without a library" will be treated only by Miss Edith E. Clarke.

Bishop Vincent, of Chautauqua University, will speak on "The meaning of Chautauqua"; "Special training for children's librarians" will be opened by Miss Moore, of Pratt Institute, and by Mr. Crunden; "Human sympathy *vs.* technical training" will be presented by Miss Laura Speck, of the St. Louis Public Library; The "Department of bibliography at Stanford University" will be described by F. J. Teggart; "The many-sidedness of university extension" will be treated by Prof. R. G. Moulton, of Chicago University; Barr Ferree, of the Brooklyn Institute, will speak on "Institutes"; "Yellow journalism" will be discussed by J. H. MacMahon, of the Cathedral Library of New York; and Mr. Crunden will discuss "The endowed newspaper."

In the Elementary Section, under Miss Sharp's direction, a chief topic to be considered is "Organization of small libraries," which will cover the subjects of Book selection; Bookbuying; Enlisting public interest; Newspapers and newsrooms; Shelving, fittings and supplies; Cataloging and classification.

The College and Reference section will hold two sessions, and its program is announced in part as follows:

"American libraries and the study of ancient mss.," E. C. Richardson; "Relation of seminary and department libraries to the general university library," Geo. H. Baker; "Relations between the library and the publication department of a university," Cyrus Adler; "What proportion of its funds is a college library justified in devoting to current periodicals," W. J. James; "Use made of the printed catalog cards for articles in current periodicals," C. W. Andrews.

Topics added to the program of the Large Li-

braries section include: "Advances in methods of assistance to readers," W: H. Brett; "Dependence of reference department on cataloging and classification departments," "Institutes," Willard H. Austin; "Development of collections of reference books," W: C. Lane; "Collections of reserved books," C: K. Bolton; "Interlibrary loans in reference work," S: S. Green.

SPECIAL NOTES.

Among the special gatherings of the conference will be a meeting of the Graduates' Association of the Pratt Institute Library School, to which all graduates are cordially invited. Notice of the meeting is given elsewhere (*see p. 252*).

LOCAL ENTERTAINMENT PROGRAM.

Since the May issue of the *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, in which the local program of entertainment was given, the arrangements for some of the entertainments to be offered the visiting librarians have had to be modified somewhat, in order to provide adequately for the business sessions. The garden party at the summer home of Mr. and Mrs. Proudfit has been placed on Wednesday, July 6, at 7 p.m., and will be the leading social event of conference week, while other entertainments of an informal nature will be provided as the time allows, full details of which will be ready for the delegates on their arrival at Lakewood.

ACCOMMODATIONS.

All intending to be present at the conference should arrange for accommodations beforehand, if possible, thus avoiding crowd and perhaps delay at the last moment. The headquarters hotels afford ample accommodations, and the opportunities they offer of social intercourse between sessions, and of being constantly in the centre of activities, should more than equalize the difference in expense between these and cottage accommodations. The rates at the hotels—Kent and Waldmere—are, as previously stated, \$2.50 per day for either one or two in a room. There are no cottages connected with the hotel management, so that cottage accommodations include both rooms and board at cottages. Information respecting cottage rooms available at cheaper rates may be had on application to the chairman of the local committee. The attendance prospects of the conference are remarkably good and all indications point to one of the largest and most representative gatherings in the history of the association. All who have not yet done so should communicate at once with Miss Hazeltine, Prendergast Library, Jamestown, N. Y., chairman of the local committee, to give notification of intention to be present and to ask that rooms be reserved for them.

POST-CONFERENCE REST.

The second week, to be devoted to the Post-conference Rest, is already an assured success. A large number have signified their intention of remaining over for these days of refreshment and pleasant rest, and undoubtedly the ranks will be greatly swelled when the charm

of the Chautauqua region becomes actually apparent. The local committee has some delightful plans outlined for this second week, including probably a trip to Niagara; enough "left over" business and discussion will probably remain to give the days thus spent a professional as well as a personal value; while the many opportunities for bicycling, boating, golf, and similar outdoor pleasures make the Post-conference Rest pre-eminently attractive as a vacation outing.

SPECIAL EXHIBITS.

Plans for the special exhibits, which have been previously outlined in these columns, have fully developed, and these promise to be an interesting feature of the conference. In addition to the exhibits of appliances, blanks, bulletins, etc., etc., prepared and displayed by libraries, there will be numerous exhibits arranged by publishers and dealers in library supplies. These will include special editions and collections of books intended for library use, original drawings, posters and cover designs, bindings, photographs, etc. Excellent facilities are afforded for the display of the various exhibits, and the fact that the actual business week includes two holidays should give good opportunity for their inspection and examination.

A. L. A. BADGE.

All members intending to be present at the Chautauqua conference are again urged to "show their colors" by wearing the A. L. A. badge. Those who have not already secured this sign of their membership in the library ranks may do so by applying to Miss Nina E. Browne, 10½ Beacon street, Boston, Mass. The badge may be had as a pin or a charm, and costs \$2.50.

CHAUTAUQUA HANDBOOK.

The handbook of the Chautauqua conference, just issued by the local committee, is an attractive little pamphlet bound in dark green and gold, in which the varied natural beauties of the Chautauqua region are set forth in picture and text. The illustrations are especially good, and give delightful glimpses of lake and shore, tempting to vacation explorations. Besides historical and descriptive sketches of Chautauqua Lake, the Chautauqua Assembly is described; there is an account of the Prendergast Library of Jamestown, and sketches of special places of interest in Jamestown and around the lake. The A. L. A. notes include list of members of the local committee, outline of entertainment planned, two pages of local information as to hotels, mail, etc., and an account of the special exhibits prepared for the conference. The local committee, and especially the chairman of the printing committee, Mr. W. S. Bailey, are to be congratulated on the handbook.

A. L. A. HANDBOOK.

Inquiries have exhausted the 1897 A. L. A. handbook and a new edition will be issued in June. Suggestions for desired changes and corrections are invited and should be sent at once to Secretary Melvil Dewey, Albany, N. Y.

State Library Commissions.

CONNECTICUT F. P. L. COMMITTEE: Caroline M. Hewins, secretary, Public Library, Hartford, Ct.

GEORGIA STATE L. COMMISSION.

MASSACHUSETTS STATE L. COMMISSION: Miss E. P. Sohler, secretary, Beverly.

NEW HAMPSHIRE STATE L. COMMISSION: J. H. Whittier, secretary, East Rochester.

NEW YORK: Public Libraries Division, State University, Melvil Dewey, director, Albany.

OHIO STATE L. COMMISSION: C. B. Galbreath, secretary, State Library, Columbus.

VERMONT LIBRARY COMMISSION: Miss M. L. Titcomb, secretary, Public Library, Rutland.

WISCONSIN F. L. COMMISSION: F. A. Hutchins, secretary, Madison; Miss L. E. Stearns, librarian, Milwaukee.

THE Wisconsin Free Library Commission is planning to send travelling libraries to the Wisconsin troops that are in camp in the south. Books, magazines, and illustrated periodicals will be sent, packed in substantial water-proof cases with handles, of shape and size permitting easy handling. Each case will contain 15 or 18 volumes, with a simple system of records and blanks, so that an account of the books can be kept. 12 of these cases will be sent to each regiment, and the proper officers will then send one to each company. In a few weeks there will be a general exchange of libraries in each regiment. Illustrated papers like *Harper's Weekly* and the *Scientific American* will be cheaply but substantially bound, with half a dozen copies in each volume. "No controversial literature will be forwarded. Books of wholesome adventure and biographies of great American and military commanders, histories of the Civil War, and stories of camp life are especially desired. Any paper-covered volumes which may be contributed will be circulated freely in the camps, but will not be returned to the libraries by the soldiers who take them."

Contributions of books, magazines, or money are asked for from the people of the state to aid in carrying out these arrangements.

State Library Associations.

CALIFORNIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: G. T. Clark, Public Library, San Francisco.

Secretary: F. J. Teggart, Leland Stanford Jr. University, Stanford P. O.

Treasurer: Miss Emily I. Wade, Public Library, San Francisco.

THE May meeting of the California Library Association was held on the evening of May 13 in the library of the University of California, at Berkeley.

Mr. J. C. Rowell cordially welcomed the association to the university. On the regular program Prof. Edward B. Clapp read a paper treating of the "Libraries of the ancients," which proved of great interest. The speaker

passed in review what is known of the libraries of Egypt, Greece, Alexandria, and Rome.

Professor Bernard Moses spoke of his experiences as "a book-hunter in Spain." He pointed out the position which Madrid occupies in being the only centre of books and learning in that country. While in Madrid the book-stores and libraries are conducted as in any other large city in Europe, in the provinces, on the other hand, there is no reading, no demand for books, and even in such cities as Barcelona and Seville the trade is represented by ignorant and lazy peddlers, whose stock in trade is deposited in a heap in the market-place or in a corner of the single room in which the owner and his family live.

The title of Prof. Thomas R. Bacon's paper was announced as "Before libraries—what?" but notwithstanding the announcement, the paper was not a study in archæology. Professor Bacon's remarks, characterized by wit and wisdom, were devoted to showing the character of European book collections before the inauguration of the modern free public library. He paid a tribute to the services rendered by the monasteries and by the royal courts in preserving libraries from generation to generation, which without the protection of permanent institutions would have been dispersed and destroyed. The speaker also referred to the difficulties experienced by scholars even in the 18th century in securing the books necessary for their investigations. The great circulating libraries of England, it was shown, were a development from the 18th century habit of reading in bookstores, when men paid a small fee for the privilege of reading books which they did not care to purchase.

On the recommendation of the publication committee it was decided to issue no. 2 of the Publications of the Association, containing papers by Prof. Edward A. Ross and Mr. Chas. S. Greene.

After the meeting Mr. Rowell displayed the bibliographical and other rarities of the library. These were greatly appreciated by all present, and some time was spent in their inspection.

FREDERICK J. TEGGART, Secretary.

COLORADO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: A. E. Whitaker, State University Library, Boulder.

Secretary: Herbert E. Richie, Box 1589, Denver.

Treasurer: J. W. Chapman, McClelland Library, Pueblo.

CONNECTICUT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Frank B. Gay, Watkinson Library, Hartford.

Secretary: Miss Angeline Scott, Public Library, South Norwalk.

Treasurer: Miss Anna G. Rockwell, New Britain Institute, New Britain.

THE spring meeting of the Connecticut Library Association, held June 7, at the Bristol (Ct.) Public Library, was well attended and the papers were particularly profitable for librarians of small libraries. President F. B. Gay called the meeting to order, and after the report of

the secretary and treasurer different matters of business were taken up and discussed. One member suggested a library clearing-house, whereby duplicates might be exchanged, and another suggested the transmission of books among the small libraries of Connecticut, to aid where literature was wanting on some particular subject.

The business meeting was followed by an interesting address by Judge Peck, of Bristol, on "The legitimate aspirations of a village library," in which the Bristol library was taken as a type of the library intended. Among his hints were: Do not specialize in popular fiction, and on the other hand do not cater entirely to the people of culture. Most of the books of current fiction in 10 years will be dead trash, but the best literature will always be wanted. Strive for breadth of scope; choose broad books rather than the special, and be solicitous to have the fiction and magazines of a quality to attract those who are not familiar with the best literature. One field in which every village library should specialize is that of local history. All public documents of local character, town reports, church manuals—in short, everything connected with the town—should be collected for the needs of the future historian. The public library should be democratic, not over-punctilious about decorum, and should serve the artistic needs of the town along with its other needs by providing photographs of works of art, either to be used in the schools or on its own walls. No aspiration can be too high to be legitimate, but it may be too high to be attained.

Miss Corinne Bacon, of the New Britain Institute, discussed the question "What constitutes morality in fiction?" This paper had been read before the Woman's Club of New Britain in the winter, and was one of a series of papers on the fiction of the day. Miss Bacon said that the moral novel must deal with the whole of life. A book may be so untrue to life that it is immoral, and a book may be such a mixture of the impossible and the realistic that it may result in a false, unhealthy story. Truth should be the most important factor of fiction, and there is often greater danger in the false picture of life than in the mentioned evils of life. The main test of a book is the personal test. Choose your books as you would your friends.

At 12 o'clock a recess was taken, and through the thoughtful courtesy of the trustees a trolley car was placed at the disposal of the guests and a ride was taken to Lake Compounce, where dinner was enjoyed.

At 2.30 the meeting opened with a valuable paper by H. W. Kent, of the Peck Memorial Library of Norwich, on "Library museums." He said that in our world of to-day the museum takes third place, all systems of education having first, and public libraries second, place. In a discussion that followed, Mr. Perry, of the Case Memorial Library, thought that every library, however small, should have its collection of birds, minerals, and everything else of like interest to be found in that town or county.

Mr. A. D. Risteen, of the Hartford Steam Boiler Company, followed with a helpful paper on "Scientific books in a small library." He said that he was optimistic in most things, but in the realm of scientific books he was sorry to say there were really very few first-class works. Books such as those by Shaler and Gibson are always useful, but books on physiology and such sciences become obsolete in a short time. Mr. Risteen recommended the following popular books in the various fields of science which were gladly noted down by the librarians present: Appleton's "Library of useful stories," Young's "General astronomy," Packard's "Elements of zoölogy," Roscoe's "Elements of chemistry," Le Comte's "Elements of geology," De Barry's "Bacteria," Hopkins's "Experimental physics," Huxley and Youmans' "Physiology," Reynolds' "Chemistry," Prudden's "Story of bacteria," and the same writer's "Dust and its dangers." For periodicals in general science he thought the English magazine *Nature* and the American *Electrician* the most useful. He also suggested that the association procure the assistance of experts to recommend books in the various lines of science as they are published, rather than rely upon reviews.

The last subject on the program, "Special features of this year's work; what has been done in your library?" was opened by W. K. Stetson, of the New Haven Public Library, followed by Miss Richardson, of New London; Miss Van Hoesen, of Stamford; Miss Bassett, of Waterbury, and various others, who reported matters of interest in their own libraries.

A vote of thanks was extended to the librarian and trustees of the Bristol library, after which the meeting was adjourned.

GEORGIA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss Anne Wallace, Young Men's Library, Atlanta.

Secretary: C. W. Hubner, Atlanta.

Treasurer: Miss L. A. Field, Decatur.

ILLINOIS STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: J. W. Thompson, Evanston.

Secretary: Miss Cornelia Marvin, Scoville Institute, Oak Park.

Treasurer: Mrs. Josephine Resor, Public Library, Canton.

INDIANA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: J. C. Leach, Public Library, Kokomo.

Secretary: Albert Faurot, Rose Polytechnic Institute Library, Terre Haute.

Treasurer: Miss Eva M. Fitzgerald, State Library, Indianapolis.

IOWA STATE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. H. Johnston, Public Library, Fort Dodge.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss Ella McLoney, Public Library, Des Moines.

MAINE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: E. W. Hall, Colby University, Waterville.

Treasurer: Prof. G. T. Little, Bowdoin College, Brunswick.

MASSACHUSETTS LIBRARY CLUB.

President: Miss Alice G. Chandler, Town Library, Lancaster.

Secretary: H. C. Wellman, Public Library, Boston.

Treasurer: Miss A. L. Sargent, Public Library, Medford.

THE 31st meeting of the Massachusetts Library Club was held on Thursday, May 12, at Newton, by invitation of the trustees of the Newton Free Library.

The morning session was opened by an address of welcome by Mr. E. B. Haskell, a trustee of the library. He gave a brief sketch of the growth of the library. That books are only valuable when read he gave as its leading principle.

Rev. Francis B. Hornbrooke, of Newton, then read a paper on "What has a town a right to expect of its library?" His views coincided with those of the modern librarian. The paper was followed by a discussion on the practice of libraries in buying religious books and papers. The fiction question was also discussed, but no new light was gained. Mr. Lane suggested that a town might also expect its library to furnish books for the blind.

After the lunch, served in a building near the library, the members had an opportunity to inspect the library.

The afternoon session was opened with the reading, by Mr. Lane, of the following resolutions on Mr. John S. Hayes, offered by the committee of three appointed at the April meeting:

"Mr. John S. Hayes, librarian of the Somerville Public Library since July, 1893, died on March 7, 1898.

"The Massachusetts Library Club desires to put on record an expression of its cordial regard for Mr. Hayes and of its appreciation of his work as a librarian. His active participation in library affairs, although beginning at a comparatively recent date, was marked by unusual zeal, good sense, and breadth of view. In earlier life a teacher and man of business, but always in touch with books, he came to the Somerville Library without any previous technical library training, but possessed of a mature judgment, a business shrewdness, a knowledge of and love for literature, and appreciation of the important part that literature plays in education, and having, moreover, an open and alert mind, which enabled him to grasp easily the modern principles of library administration as already developed elsewhere and apply them efficiently to the conditions of his own library. He early became a member of this club, and was a constant and interested attendant at its meetings.

"During his administration of the Somerville Library and under his direction the capacity of the library building was more than doubled by interior changes, and opportunity was thus given for the reclassification and recataloging of the books. This Mr. Hayes accomplished to the entire satisfaction of the trustees, and at the same time introduced other improvements which greatly extended the usefulness of the library. He also brought the library into close connection with the schools, a work to which his own experience as a teacher specially inclined him.

"Though the term of his service in the library was less than five years, his unwearied devotion to its interests effected a very rapid development of the resources of the library and of its importance in the life of the city, while his frank cordiality made all whom he served his personal friends."

The subject of the afternoon, "Booksellers and librarians," was opened by Mr. W. B. Clarke, one of the leading booksellers of Boston, who gave many practical business points to the librarian that will be of service to all who heard

him. Mr. G. M. Jones, of the Salem Public Library, then took up the subject from the standpoint of the librarian, and his points will be of equal service. Questions and discussion followed, until time to take the train for Boston.

MICHIGAN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: H. M. Utley, Public Library, Detroit.

Secretary: Mrs. A. F. Parsons, Public Library, Bay City.

Treasurer: Miss Lucy Ball, Public Library, Grand Rapids.

MINNESOTA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Dr. W. W. Folwell, State University, Minneapolis.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss Gratia Countryman, Public Library, Minneapolis.

NEBRASKA LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: W. E. Jillson, Doane College, Crete.

Secretary: Miss Edith Tobitt, Public Library, Omaha.

Treasurer: Mrs. M. E. Abell, Public Library, Beatrice.

NEW HAMPSHIRE LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: A. H. Chase, Concord.

Secretary: Miss Grace Blanchard, Public Library, Concord.

Treasurer: Miss A. E. Pickering, Public Library, Newington.

NEW JERSEY LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: F. P. Hill, Public Library, Newark.

Secretary: Miss Beatrice Winsor, Public Library, Newark.

Treasurer: Miss Cecelia C. Lambert, Public Library, Passaic.

THE committee on state aid appointed at the Atlantic City meeting of the New Jersey Library Association has issued a circular setting forth the work it has planned to do and asking contributions from those interested. The committee is intended to undertake, so far as possible, the work usually performed by a state library commission, the various efforts toward the creation of such a commission in New Jersey having failed of success. "The principal work of the committee will be to publish and distribute throughout the state, where libraries are not in existence, the laws relating to the formation and support of libraries, the statistics in relation to the number of libraries in the state, the number of towns without libraries, and such other matters as would be of interest in stimulating the growth and increase of the number of free public libraries, and to encourage the establishment of the same under municipal control." It is also hoped that the committee may be able to establish a few travelling libraries, the cost of which is estimated at \$50 each, for the act regarding travelling libraries passed at the last session of the legislature contained no provision authorizing an appropriation to carry this feature of the bill into effect. Contributions for the establishment of these libraries are requested, to be sent to Miss C. C. Lambert, treasurer of the association, Public Library, Passaic, N. J.

NEW YORK LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: A. L. Peck, Public Library, Gloversville.

Secretary: W. R. Eastman, State Library, Albany.

Treasurer: J. N. Wing, Chas. Scribner's Sons, 153 Fifth avenue, New York City.

THE annual western meeting of the New York Library Association, held in Utica on Wednesday and Thursday, May 25 and 26, proved wholly successful. The sessions were held in the rooms of the New Century Club, and the welcome extended to the visitors by the club representatives and the officers of the Utica Public Library was graceful and cordial.

The first session, held on Wednesday afternoon, was attended by many Utica citizens, teachers, and others interested, in addition to the library visitors, the number present being about 150. The meeting was called to order at 3.20 p.m. by A. L. Peck, president of the association, who introduced Mayor Thomas E. Kinney, of Utica. Mr. Kinney made a short address of welcome, referring to the changes wrought within the last few years in the Utica library and emphasizing the importance of trained skill in library management. He spoke of Utica's "one crying want—a first-class library building," of the handicap the present inadequate quarters are to the library's work, and expressed the wish that this handicap might be removed by the generosity of some public-spirited citizen.

President Peck responded happily, in a few well-chosen words, saying that he did not fear that the words of sympathy and approval they had just heard would make the librarians self-satisfied and conceited, because he had observed that "as often as librarians begin to talk 'shop' and compare notes, and whenever they find that somebody else does something better, they go home and make improvements at once." He referred to the revision of the library law of the state undertaken in the "education bill" introduced into the legislature in February of this year, and asked for the report of the committee on legislation appointed to deal with the subject.

This report was presented by Mr. W. R. Eastman, chairman of the committee, who gave a lucid summary of the characteristics of the measure, which will probably be again brought up in the next legislature. The committee heartily approved the general provisions of that part of the bill relating to library matters, but suggested 17 amendments, eight of which were accepted by the legislative committee and incorporated in the revised draft of the bill. A new section of the bill was also proposed, but not accepted, relating to the status of chartered free libraries and museums, and providing that "every chartered free library or museum shall be under the exclusive control of its own board of trustees established and organized under its charter, but shall be subject to visitation and inspection by the university."

The report closes with the following recommendations, which were adopted: "That the

committee on legislation be continued; that they are instructed to secure from the next legislature such provisions in the law as shall most effectually secure libraries dependent on public tax from loss of required income through an adverse vote at any single annual election or district meeting.

"That they call renewed attention to the statement recommended by the committee in regard to the status of chartered free libraries and museums and urge its adoption in the revised law."

"A reading-room in the public library" was the subject presented by Miss W. I. Bullock, of Utica. It described the different varieties of reading-rooms—newspaper-rooms, special study and reading rooms, children's rooms, which rank next to importance to the general reading and reference room, and the reading and reference room—and considered the influence that the reading-room should exert. The influence, the speaker thought, should be largely in the direction of supplementing school work and aiding literary students, club members, and similar readers to obtain the best available materials along their lines of work; and she believed that no library could fully accomplish its purpose without the aid of a well-equipped reading-room. Miss Hannah P. James, of the Osterhout Free Library of Wilkesbarre, treated the same subject in an interesting paper, in which she showed that the reading-room was "an indispensable adjunct to every library." She said: "Make it as homelike and beautiful as possible—it need not necessarily add to its expense. If possible, let in the sunshine and as much outdoor light as can be had, and, above all, place the reading-room where the greatest possible quiet can be obtained. A quiet, well-ordered, attractive room, away from the bustle and distraction of the active work of the library, devoted to reading and study, will do more toward encouraging a love of study and a knowledge of and a taste for research than a dozen circulating libraries together."

A few words on the newspaper department of the reading-room were added by Mr. Dewey, who said that the line should be drawn sharply at "yellow journalism," which does much to neutralize or destroy the work of the schools.

"The public school and the public library" was the next subject, divided into two parts; the first, "How the library helps the school," being presented by Miss Arria S. Huntington, of the board of school commissioners of Syracuse. Miss Huntington thought that the library's first help to the school should be through the teachers, by calling their attention to reference-books and pedagogical works that could be of service to them; "teachers should find in the library a constant resource," and the public library should be a constant feeder for the school library. The second aim should be to help the children, especially by imparting a taste for good reading. "How the school helps the library" was described by E. W. Lytle, inspector for the University of the State of New York, who spoke of the usefulness of the school library, and of how often it became the nucleus of a public library. A general discussion fol-

lowed, in which John E. Brandegee, trustee of the Utica library, Supt. George Griffith, of Utica, E. W. Mundy, of the Syracuse library, and A. L. Peck participated.

At the close of the afternoon session the visitors were delightfully entertained by the representatives of the club and the Utica Public Library, and a pleasant supper was served in the banquet hall of the club.

The evening session opened with an excellent paper on "Women's clubs and the public library," by Mrs. F. A. Goodale, president of the New Century Club, who said that of the women's clubs of the state 21 had started public libraries. President Peck followed with a paper on "Workingmen's clubs and the public library," outlining most interestingly a novel departure undertaken at the Gloversville Public Library, where from November to April a workingman's club holds sessions under the auspices of the library. He said that of the 136 study clubs of the state but 40 admit men, the membership is 6655, and all but 495 are women. The average attendance is 3405 women and 206 men. He estimated that among men probably 62 per cent. read only yellow journals and trashy novels, and he believed that it was necessary for the library to make special effort to counteract this mental inertness on the part of workingmen.

Mr. Dewey then gave an inspiring address on "Home education," which was received with deep interest. He said that from the birth of the race there have been three things or questions uppermost. They are: "show me a picture," "tell me a story," and "what is the news?" and he showed how the educational activities of to-day had undertaken to answer these primary questions in a wise and helpful manner. Home education he divided into five groups: libraries, museums, clubs, extension teaching, and examinations and certificates. By library was meant everything from the newspaper to the encyclopædia; the museum represented all that is learned through the eye by pictures and art of every description; by clubs was meant everything that results from mental help; extension system included the evening school, the summer, vacation, and correspondence schools, everything outside of a regular school; while last but not least stood the test and credential system, so widely extended by the influence of the university. The work already done and the future plans along these lines were described with force and effectiveness, and the address was a stirring call to action in behalf of educational advancement.

The second day's session was opened at 10 a.m. on Wednesday. The secretary offered a resolution that the next election of officers be postponed till the May meeting of the association, and be held thereafter at the May meeting each year instead of as heretofore in January. After discussion this was passed, with the proviso that before becoming operative it is to be submitted to the winter meeting for approval. A resolution of thanks to the Utica Public Library and the New Century Club was also passed.

"Library work for children" was the subject next taken up, introduced by President Peck, who said that children were never too young to use a library. The topic was informally discussed, among the speakers being W. L. Brown, of the Buffalo Public Library, E. W. Mundy, Miss Underhill of Utica, and E. W. Lytle. Miss James read an interesting paper on "Home and school," describing the library's influence in both directions and emphasizing the importance of work with the children as a prime function of the library.

The "best juvenile books of 1897" as selected from the lists issued by the New York State Library were named by Mr. Eastman in three short lists.

A round table discussion followed on "How we select our books," in which the speakers were Miss Beach, of the Jervis Library, Rome; Miss A. H. Perkins, of the Ilion Public Library; E. W. Mundy, Mr. Dewey, Mr. H. J. Carr of Scranton, and Dr. G. E. Wire of Evanston, Ill. The subject proved an interesting one, but seemed to develop the fact that the librarian's chief difficulty was not what books to buy but how to get the money to buy the books desired.

The meeting adjourned at one o'clock and the convention was generally pronounced as thoroughly pleasant and profitable to all concerned.

OHIO LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Frank Conover, Public Library, Dayton.

Secretary: Charles Orr, Case Library, Cleveland.

Treasurer: Martin Hensel, Public School Library, Columbus.

PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

President: James G. Barnwell, Library Company of Philadelphia.

Secretary: Miss Mary P. Farr, Philadelphia Normal School.

Treasurer: Miss Jean E. Graffen, Free Library of Philadelphia.

THE last meeting of the Pennsylvania Library Club till the fall was held on Monday, May 23, on the invitation of Mr. T. L. Montgomery, at the Wagner Free Institute of Science. The meeting was called to order by Mr. Barnwell, the president, who introduced Dr. E. J. Nolan, librarian of the Academy of Natural Sciences. The latter delivered an address detailing the "Literature of natural history." It is impossible to complain that he did not begin far back enough, as he reported Adam as being the first zoölogist, when he named all the beasts of the field. He informed his listeners, cursorily, that Eve was the first botanist and Noah the first museum collector, and then gave an interesting account of the labors of Aristotle and the narrow escape of his works from total destruction, describing how the manuscripts had been bequeathed to Theophrastus, by him again bequeathed to the latter's favorite disciple, Neleus, who retained for himself the manuscripts of the two philosophers, and how in order to save them from seizure by the Royalty

of Pergamus, his descendants hid them in a cellar, where they remained exposed to damp and worms for two centuries, when they were sold to Apellicon of Athens, who prepared from them a new edition of Aristotle's works, correcting errors, filling in gaps, and leading the way to the recovery of much that had been lost or very inaccurately handed down. His account of the labors of Linnæus and his success in establishing the binomial nomenclature was followed up by accounts of the great Buffon, Cuvier, and others. His address was charming, and gave an insight into the thousands of volumes that go to make up a library on natural history. A cordial vote of thanks was extended to Dr. Nolan, and after the reference of the names of some new members to the executive committee for election the meeting broke up with the comforting feeling that the series of addresses during the past season had been of an unusually interesting and high character. At the next meeting an address is to be given by Mr. James Warrington on books of psalmody, illustrated by an exhibition of rare books upon the subject, and aided by a double quartette to illustrate the growth and development of this interesting section of music. Mr. Barnwell closed the proceedings with a few earnest words to the members, pressing upon them the benefit to be obtained by joining in the forthcoming A. L. A. conference at Chautauqua.

WESTERN PENNSYLVANIA LIBRARY CLUB.

President: W. M. Stevenson, Carnegie Library, Allegheny.

Secretary-Treasurer: Miss Elizabeth Wales, Carnegie Free Library, Braddock.

THE annual public meeting of the Western Pennsylvania Library Club was held in the lecture-room of the Carnegie Free Library, Allegheny, Pa., on the evening of May 12. Rev. Matthew Brown Riddle, D.D., of the Western Theological Seminary of Allegheny, formerly of the Hartford Theological Seminary, addressed the meeting on "The public librarian's function as an educator." He introduced his subject with some autobiographic remarks, and said that he had been a teacher all his life; he had passed through all the grades of the work, from teaching a country school in Missouri, where he had to flog boys as big as himself and take knives from them, to the work of preparing young men to enter the Christian ministry. "There remains but one step higher for me to take, and that is to be a librarian." Aside from the mere technique of the profession, he thought the librarian ought to be a teacher in the broadest and best sense. Other teachers have to deal with either elementary or professional training, but the librarian must take up the work where other teachers leave off. In the use of books he noted the following divisions: books for study, books for stimulation, and books for diversion.

He thought it the duty of the librarian to warn the reader against useless books, saying that at least nine-tenths of the books published nowadays were utterly worthless. No list of "best books" was advisable. The book is

the best which is best adapted to the reader. Among books that readers needed to be warned against were the many theoretical books in social science; it was better to read history—the only safe guide in such matters. The speaker said he made it a practice to read every book that came into his household before putting it in the hands of his children. If the book was by a woman, he was doubly cautious, believing that the influence of a book by a woman, if treating certain subjects, was more pernicious, because more insidious, than if treated in the blunt manner of a man.

The address closed with a few timely remarks on the teachings of history as shown in the present political situation. The address was listened to with deep interest by a representative gathering of the library lovers of the community.

VERMONT LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Miss S. C. Hagar, Fletcher Free Library, Burlington.

Secretary: Miss M. L. Titcomb, Free Library, Rutland.

Treasurer: E. F. Holbrook, Proctor.

WISCONSIN LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Dr. E. A. Birge, City Library, Madison.

Secretary: Miss Agnes Van Valkenburgh, Public Library, Milwaukee.

Treasurer: Miss Maude A. Earley, Public Library, Chippewa Falls.

NORTH WISCONSIN TRAVELLING LIBRARY ASSOCIATION.

President: Mrs. E. E. Vaughn, Ashland.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss Janet Green, Vaughn Library, Ashland.

Library Clubs.

CHICAGO LIBRARY CLUB.

President: H. W. Gates, Hammond Library.

Secretary: C. B. Roden, Public Library, Chicago.

Treasurer: Miss M. E. Ahern, Public Libraries, 215 Madison street.

MILWAUKEE LIBRARY ROUND TABLE.

"A little work, a little play

To keep us going—and so, good-day!"

NEW YORK LIBRARY CLUB.

President: A. E. Bostwick, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

Secretary: T. W. Idle, Columbia University Library.

Treasurer: Miss Theresa Hitchler, N. Y. Free Circulating Library.

THE last meeting of the year 1897-98 was held on Thursday, May 12, at Columbia University Library. In accordance with the program, President Bostwick called upon Mr. George H. Baker for an account of the library in whose building the club's members were assembled. The speaker gave a general account of the plans and suggestions made in the initial stages of the great project which finally gave to Columbia its new home—some of the important features having been suggested by President Low—and continued in an outline of

the building and its contents as it is to-day. Copies of the illustrated account of the university building issued in 1897 were distributed; these together with the scale drawings, which were frequently referred to, enabled the listeners to readily follow the description of the architect's designs. Mr. Baker touched on the arrangement of seminar-rooms, for special and advanced students, which are so placed as to give free access to books on a given subject very much on the plan at Cornell. The speaker intimated, in a reply to an inquiry put at the meeting, that in regard to the open-shelf question he did not look with favor upon any proposal to concede more than is had at Columbia.

Mr. Bostwick followed in a brief account of the proposed new building for the Bloomingdale branch of the New York Free Circulating Library. Here also plans were advantageously employed.

Mr. Wilberforce Eames, in giving an account of the "Early printed books in the New York Public Library," said:

"One of the most pretentious books that has been published on the subject is Humphrey's 'History of the art of printing,' 1868. Whoever takes this volume as his guide will at first think that he has pretty thoroughly mastered the subject; that all the problems have been solved and there is practically nothing more to learn. Let him then read Mr. De Vinne's 'Invention of printing,' 1876, and he will find many of the statements made by Humphreys upset and disproved. If he will extend his reading to Hessel's two books on Gutenberg and Haarlem he will be informed that a large proportion of the documents used by former writers are either untrustworthy or are forgeries. So it is with most of the books treating of the invention of printing. They are based largely on speculation, and have some pet theory to set forth. Mr. Hessel has done good work in brushing away some of these historical cobwebs, and his statements, on the whole, merit careful consideration. Whether Gutenberg was the first European inventor of printing from movable types, or whether the art was first found out by Coster in Haarlem, I do not pretend to say. A new claimant has been put forward in the person of Jean Brito. It is said that documents have been found showing that he invented the art of printing with movable types at Bruges as early as 1445. Several of his books are still extant. However this may be, printing from wooden blocks, and from movable types as well, was in use long before the time of Gutenberg, Coster, or Brito. The first mention of the art is found in the Chinese annals, where it is stated that in the 13th year of the reign of Wan-ti (A. D. 593) it was ordained by a decree that the various texts in circulation should be collected and should be engraved on wood, to be printed and published. From China the art was carried to Japan, where it was in active use in the latter part of the eighth century. The British Museum possesses five Chinese books printed from wooden blocks in Japan and dating from the years A. D. 1157 to 1353. The inven-

tion of movable types is credited to a Chinese artisan named Pe Ching in the 10th century." Mr. Eames continued in a description of the method employed by Pe Ching in preparing his types and plates for printing.

In Europe the oldest specimens of printing are the block books; only a few of them bear any date. Mr. Eames said that the collection of block books in the Lenox building of the library for which he spoke is a very good one, comprising as many as 16 specimens.

This being the annual meeting, the committee auditing the treasurer's report, which had previously been read, recommended its adoption. President Bostwick then appointed a committee to nominate the officers for the following year. While this was in progress Mr. Nelson spoke on "The university library." He said in part: "The university library of to-day is a thing of very recent development—in fact, one would scarcely err in saying it is yet in its teens; prosperous in the vigor of early manhood, but promising greater usefulness in the near future, it has reached about the same stage in its growth as have the college graduates just ready to enter upon university work, upon which work the library is to exercise a most important influence, and in which it is a largely controlling factor. It is really the ripest fruit of the library movement in America, since it represents and requires the best results in all the branches of library economy as developed up to the present time." Mr. Nelson indorsed the statement made by ex-President White that the selection of books to be purchased for a university library should largely be made by the faculty, "each member of which is interested deeply in some one branch of study." A library thus built up, the speaker said, will not only be one of general reference, but will also be an aggregation of special libraries. The library is not only the storehouse whence the professor may draw increase of knowledge and inspiration for his work, but by the skillful arrangement of seminar-rooms with reference to the books in the several departments of knowledge it becomes the book-shop of both professors and students and the very centre of university instruction.

Dr. John S. Billings, chairman of the nominating committee, presented the names of the outgoing president, vice-presidents, secretary, and treasurer for re-election. The report was adopted and the election declared unanimous.

THOMAS W. IDLE, *Secretary*.

TWIN CITY LIBRARY CLUB (MINNEAPOLIS AND ST. PAUL).

President: Mrs. L. B. Reed, Public Library, Minneapolis.

Secretary and Treasurer: Miss Lettie M. Crafts, University of Minnesota Library, Minneapolis.

LIBRARY ASSOCIATION OF WASHINGTON CITY.

President: Dr. H. Carrington Bolton, Cosmos Club.

Secretary: F. H. Parsons, U. S. Naval Observatory.

Treasurer: T. L. Cole, Statute Law Book Co.

Meetings: Second Wednesday evening of each month.

THE association has just issued a supplement to its excellent "Handbook," giving revised lists of members, and continuing the bibliography of the association from March, 1897 to May, 1898. It also contains a supplement to the list of libraries (public and private) of Washington, printed in the main handbook.

Library Schools and Training Classes.

NEW YORK STATE LIBRARY SCHOOL. VISITS FROM LIBRARIANS.

WE have enjoyed this month visits from three library workers. Miss Helen Haines, of the LIBRARY JOURNAL, discussed slum fiction, a subject which has been prominently before the school this year in the course on selection of books. The paper was spritely and entertaining. It was also suggestive and very helpful in clearing up the fog that hangs over the whole realm of fiction. A comparison between "Oliver Twist" and "The child of the Jago" was most illuminating.

Mr. E. H. Anderson, of the Carnegie Library of Pittsburgh, gave a lecture on the use of the linotype by libraries, and one on the relation of museums and art galleries to the public library. Mr. Anderson was selected to cover these subjects because of the experience of the Carnegie library in these lines. His paper on the linotype was particularly valuable.

Miss Hannah P. James, librarian of the Osterhout library, Wilkesbarre, Pa., spent several days at the school, giving a talk on the methods of the Osterhout library and a very helpful lecture on the selection of fiction. She also conducted classes in book-mending, an art in which she is an adept.

SUMMER COURSE.

The summer course opened Monday, May 30, under favoring conditions for effective work. One of the handsome and capacious rooms recently fitted up on the fifth floor of the capitol serves as work-room and lecture-room. Miss Stanley, a graduate of the school in 1895, with three years' experience in charge of the Southbridge (Mass.) Public Library, gives her entire time to the work. Lectures are given by the director and eight other members of the faculty. Mr. W. R. Eastman meets the class every week for seminar work, and in addition gives an hour each day for personal consultation. The advantage of securing instruction from the regular faculty makes June a highly desirable month for the summer session.

It is a pleasure to enroll in the ranks of the profession a daughter of Mr. Reuben B. Poole.

List of students.

Boardman, Alice, Assistant librarian, Ohio State Library, Columbus, O.
Bragg, Josephine Tyler, Assistant, Worcester Free Public Library, Worcester, Mass.
Calloway, Mrs. Thomas J., Librarian, Tuskegee Institute Library, Tuskegee, Ala.

Comstock, E. Martile, Assistant, Regents Office, Albany, N. Y.

Duckworth, Jessamine Ethel, Worcester, Mass.
Farley, Caroline A., Librarian, Radcliffe College Library, Cambridge, Mass.

Frost, Grace Marie, Assistant, New York State Library, Albany, N. Y.

Henry, Laura Bell, Assistant librarian, Johnstown Public Library, Johnstown, N. Y.

Hewitt, Edna, Assistant, Mt. Vernon Public Library, Mt. Vernon, N. Y.

Hoagland, Merica, Secretary, Library Committee, Fort Wayne Public Library, Fort Wayne, Ind.

Horton, Mary Augusta, Librarian, Katonah Village Improvement Association Library, Katonah, N. Y.

Hutchins, Frank W., Cataloger, Ogdensburg Public Library, Ogdensburg, N. Y.

Lapham, Alice Maud, Smith College, 1885-86, University of Michigan, 1886-87, 1894, Brooklyn, N. Y.

Palmer, Jessie May, Alfred University, 1897-98, Assistant Alfred University Library, Hornellsville, N. Y.

Poole, Marie Brooks, New York.

Thornburg, Jennie, B.L. Cornell University, 1893, Assistant Cornell University Library, Ithaca, N. Y.

SALOME CUTLER FAIRCHILD.

HANDBOOK ON LIBRARY HANDWRITING.

THE N. Y. State Library School has just issued Handbook 11, on "Library handwriting" [24 p. Tt.], which will be welcomed as a practical and compact exposition of this part of library instruction. It is in the main a revision and extension of the article on the subject first printed in *Library Notes*, and gives examples of the "joined" and "disjoined" methods, with clear directions for their acquirement. The latter method is preferred for catalog cards on account of its superior legibility. The degree of speed attainable in library handwriting is stated as follows: "About 20 tests were made with different catalogers to determine the average speed. The result gave for 350 words, 15 minutes for the fastest note-taking hand, 31 for the joined library hand, and 37¼ for the disjoined; i.e., the library hand averaged to take just double the time of the note-taking hand, and the disjoined hand one-fourth longer than the joined hand. While individuals vary greatly, this result may be accepted as a fair average."

PRATT INSTITUTE LIBRARY SCHOOL.

CHAUTAUQUA MEETING OF GRADUATES' ASSOCIATION.

A MEETING of the Graduates' Association of the Pratt Institute Library School will be held during the week of July 2-9, at Lakewood-on-Chautauqua, in connection with the A. L. A. Conference. All graduates are cordially invited to participate in the reunion. The arrangements will be in charge of Miss Irene A. Hackett, librarian Y. M. C. A. Library, Brooklyn, N. Y. ELEANOR H. FRICK, President.

Reviews.

BIBLIOGRAPHY OF VERMONT; or, a list of books and pamphlets relating in any way to the state, with biographical and other notes; prepared by M. D. Gilman, Montpelier, Vt. (with additions by other hands). Burlington, Free Press Association, 1897. 8+350 p. O.

This valuable addition to the bibliographical record of the various states derives unusual interest from its memorial character. The collection and compilation of the material here presented was a labor of love, carried on by Marcus D. Gilman, from 1874 until his death, in 1889. During the first seven years of this period Mr. Gilman, who had retired from a prosperous business career in 1868, was librarian of the Vermont Historical Society, and was thus enabled to prosecute the work with special facilities. The material he had gathered was printed as a "Bibliography of Vermont," in the *Argus and Patriot*, from January, 1879, to June, 1880, and this first essay at a printed record was supplemented by a later record, published in the issues of the same paper until September, 1880. To these printed lists Mr. Gilman constantly added new material, and on his death the copy in print and manuscript became the property of his widow. Mrs. Gilman died in 1892, and in the following year her only surviving child, Mrs. Emily Gilman Cushman, and her husband, Rev. Henry Irving Cushman, presented the work, as a memorial gift, to the Vermont State Library. In their letter of transmission, Mr. and Mrs. Cushman said: "The 'Bibliography of Vermont' represents much thought and time and labor of its author. The work was done by him during his years of retirement from active business and in love and loyalty to his native state. Feeling that this work is too important to remain inaccessible to those who are interested in the literary achievements of Vermonters, and, furthermore, desiring that the work should be preserved as a monument to our esteemed father, we hereby present the entire work to the Vermont State Library in the assurance that it will be safely guarded there, and in the earnest hope that the state will be disposed, in the near future, to make the work more accessible by printing the same."

The publication of the bibliography was authorized by the act of Nov. 24, 1894, which provided that 800 copies be printed, and the editorial supervision of the work was performed by Hon. George G. Benedict, who added largely to the original material; many titles of Vermont publications collected by Mr. T. L. Wood, assistant state librarian, were also placed at Mr. Benedict's service, and the work has been successfully carried out upon the lines first planned. The introduction, by H. A. Huse, state librarian, is largely an interesting biographical sketch of Mr. Gilman.

The bibliography covers 346 large octavo pages, printed in double columns, and the titles recorded are said to be "upwards of 7000," of which 3489 were printed in Vermont. Books and pamphlets by Vermont writers, published in

Vermont, or referring to Vermont, are included. The arrangement is in one alphabet, under author when possible, under subject or first word of title when anonymous. Publications such as reports, society pamphlets, etc., relating to a town or county, are entered under the town, with references to authors of works on the same subject. Some special subject headings, as Agricultural, Fish and Game, Masonic, Military, Printing (under which there is a 14-p. nonpareil list, arranged alphabetically by towns, and intended as an outline history of printing in Vermont), Trials, etc., are given particular attention, and under Vermont there is a presumably complete list of the publications of the state, arranged like the similar list in the "State Publications" appendix of the "American Catalogue," which is especially welcome. The annotations are profuse and furnish much biographical data, effort having evidently been made to secure such information regarding all Vermont writers represented. Authors' names are generally given in full, but this practice has been carelessly followed, and in some cases the author entry gives initial only, although the full name follows immediately in the record of the title. The main title of a book is given in italics, the rest in brevier; imprint data is fully noted and varying editions are listed. Technically, it must be said that the work is often faulty. The lack of adequate cross-references and the frequent burial of titles under such catchwords as Abstract, Account, Convention, Proceedings, which seem to be used interchangeably, are the most serious defects; but these do not counterbalance the interest and usefulness of the bibliography as a whole. The amount of labor and research that must have gone to the preparation of the work can hardly be overestimated, and in its publication the state of Vermont has earned the appreciative recognition of bibliographers.

CORNU, *Mme. Sophie*, and Beer, William. List of French fiction. (American Library Association annotated lists.) [Boston.] Published for the A. L. A. Publishing Section of the Library Bureau, 1898. 32 p. Tt. pap., 10c.

This little list, which succeeds Miss Hewins' in the "small series" of the "A. L. A. annotated lists," has been prepared with the generous co-operation of Mr. George Iles, and is intended to furnish librarians with a select guide to French fiction, adapted to the perusal of the young person. The list numbers 186 titles, chosen from the works of 70 representative French authors, and "in their selections the editors have as carefully sought soundness of sentiment as excellence of style, so that the list may serve as a guide to reading for the young and for the family circle." It is an author list, giving publisher and price, and including works in French (noting translations, if any), although many are in English school editions, with English notes or vocabulary. Form of binding is stated, save in case of French editions, where publication in paper is understood unless otherwise specified. The annotations as a rule are very brief, giving in

one or two lines the chief characteristics of the book. The omission of date of publication is perhaps to be regretted, for this information is always desirable, though less necessary in a fiction list than in the case of other literature.

That the selection fulfils the purpose for which it is intended cannot be questioned, and it does so excellently, though in any such list entire general agreement as to inclusion and exclusion is difficult, if not impossible. For instance, we miss among the titles selected Mme. Schultze's charming story, "La neuvaïne de Colette," which is *par excellence* adapted to this list, and the absence of all of Cherbuliez's books is hard to understand, while at the same time it may be questioned whether Bourget's "Un saint" is wholly unobjectionable in spirit, even though it be so in letter. But the list should be of direct practical aid to librarians in the handling of the vexed question of French fiction for general reading.

WRONG, G. M., and Langton, H. H. Review of historical publications relating to Canada. Vol. 2: Publications of the year 1897. University of Toronto, Published by the librarian, 1898. 10+238 p. O. \$1; \$1.50.

It is pleasant to record the second volume of this valuable contribution to Canadian bibliography, and to note its comprehensiveness and practical usefulness. As a guide in buying books it should be of service to librarians generally, and it combines bibliographical record with critical evaluation thoroughly and effectively. A brief statement of its arrangement may be useful to those unfamiliar with the first volume. It is a classified record of publications relating, in whole or in part, to Canada, published in the Dominion, the United States, and England during 1897, reviewed with more or less fulness by competent authorities. The present volume, unlike that for 1896, includes also articles in periodicals. The classification covers: 1, Canada's relation to the empire; 2, The history of Canada; 3, Provincial and local history, subdivided by provinces; 4, Geography, economics, and statistics; 5, Law, education, and bibliography; and an appendix devoted to brief record of verse and fiction bearing upon the subject. Many of the reviews are signed; all show fair, painstaking, and careful work; and the critical perspective seems well adjusted. The reviews range from six or seven pages to an equal number of lines, and are a most interesting revelation of the wealth of literature that has appeared on the subject within a single twelvemonth. There are 166 publications recorded, the majority of which relate specifically to Canadian affairs, although such works as Roosevelt's "Westward movement," Mahan's "Interest of America in sea-power," Coubertin's "Evolution of France," and others that touch the subject in part only, are included. An author and title index is appended, and forms a necessary key to the contents of the volume, though it is to be wished that full subject references might also have been included.

Library Economy and History.

Medical Libraries is the title of a new monthly, edited and issued by Dr. C. D. Spivak, whose work in organizing a co-operative medical library in Denver is familiar to readers of the JOURNAL. The aims of the new periodical are: "1, to encourage the founding of medical libraries and medical departments in public libraries wherever the medical profession is fairly organized; 2, to encourage the compilation of union catalogs of medical books and periodicals of private libraries as outlined in our pamphlet 'How every city may secure a medical library'; 3, to further the project proposed by Dr. G. M. Gould, of Philadelphia, of organizing a medical librarian's association and the perfecting of plans whereby the wasted medical literature all over the world may be utilized; 4, to gather data, publish reports, news and historical sketches of public and private medical libraries and biographies of medical librarians and book-lovers." The April issue (no. 3) is a four-page leaflet, and contains, besides announcements, a sketch of the the Quine medical library of Chicago, and notes on "libraries and librarians." The May number will be a special souvenir edition in honor of the Denver meeting of the American Medical Association. *Medical Libraries* is published by Dr. Spivak, at 3 Denison building, Denver, at 50 c. per year.

PUTNAM, Herbert. The relation of free public libraries to the community. (*In North American Review*, June, 1898, p. 660-672.)

A thoughtful and noteworthy consideration of the place the free public library should occupy in the community and the standards of efficiency it should maintain. Mr. Putnam's remarks on the vexed question of the library's function as regards reading are helpful and suggestive. His keynote, perhaps, is struck when he says: "We do not deliberately furnish poor art at public expense, because there is a portion of the public which cannot appreciate the better. Nor when the best is offered without apology does the uncultured public in fact complain that it is too 'advanced.' Thousands of 'ordinary' people come to see and enjoy the Abbey and Chavannes and Sargent decorations in the Boston Public Library. The best of art is not too good for the least of men, providing he can be influenced at all. Nor are the best of books too good for him, providing he can be influenced at all, and provided they are permitted, as are the pictures, to make their appeal directly. They must not be secluded behind catalogs and formal paraphernalia. The practice which admitted the scholar to the shelves and limited the general reader to the catalogs gave the best opportunity to him who least needed it."

LOCAL.

Bloomington, Ill. Withers P. L. On the evening of May 13 a pleasant public reception was held at the library, in celebration of the improvements and changes recently completed in the building. Short addresses were made by

members of the board, and the mayor in a brief speech expressed his appreciation of what the library was to the city. A general reception and inspection followed.

The changes at the library include the installation of a fine new stack-room, equipped with L. B. iron stacks; two reference-rooms, a work-room, and cloak-rooms, and the refitting of the building with new furniture, desks, tables, chairs, racks, etc.; improvement in the lighting arrangements, and fresh interior decorations throughout. The children's room is one of the special features of the library. In its adequate and attractive quarters, and with the admirable equipment now assured, the library has a bright future to look forward to.

Brooklyn, N. Y. Pratt Institute F. L. The first of a projected series of lectures to children was given at the library on the afternoon of Saturday, May 7. The lecturer was Mr. C. M. Skinner, of the Brooklyn *Eagle*, author of "Nature in a city yard" and "With feet to the earth," and his subject was "How the spring comes." There were about 150 children present and a few adults, and the lecturer held the eager attention of his unusual audience for nearly an hour. His apparatus consisted of a blackboard, an apple with a lead-pencil for an axis, some ferns, dogwood, cocoons, logs of wood of several kinds, a hornet's nest (vacated), etc. With these he illustrated the recurrence of spring on the globe, the unfolding of vegetation, the growth of trees, the transformations of insects, the fertilization of plants, etc. The talk was valuable from its suggestiveness, stimulating the curiosity of the children to know more, and resulted in a rush for books in the children's library afterwards. This had been expected and planned for, about 140 books on the subject described having been reserved for the occasion. A subject reference list had been prepared, and copies of this were at once in demand. The success of the lecture will probably lead to a course next year.

A spring exhibition of wild flowers and pictures of birds has been also held in the children's room, where it attracted considerable attention, especially from little girls. Portraits of bird-lovers and students, such as Audubon, Thoreau, Burroughs, and others have been placed on the bulletin-boards, with circulars of the Audubon Society.

Buffalo (N. Y.) Historical Soc. L. (Rpt., 1897.) Added 173 v., 616 pm.; total 9294 v., 8002 pm. "A thorough and systematic" card catalog is in course of preparation.

Chicago libs. The fifth and concluding paper of a series on "The growth and strength of Chicago libraries" appeared in the *Baptist Standard*, of Chicago, for May 7. It dealt with "The smaller libraries," and noted the libraries of Northwestern University, Lake Forest University, the Chicago Divinity School, Chicago Theological Seminary, Armour Institute, the Evanston Public Library, and other suburban libraries.

Greenland, N. H. Weeks Memorial L. The

Weeks Memorial Library building, given to Greenland by Mrs. Caroline Avery Weeks, was on May 19 formally dedicated and transferred to the town.

The building, which is finely located in the business centre of the town, is of pressed brick, with marble trimmings, granite underpinnings, slate roof, and large plate-glass windows. It has a frontage of 40 feet and a depth of 30, and both exterior and interior architecture is Colonial with pilasters of the Corinthian order. Over the entrance door is the inscription in marble, "Weeks Library." Above this, inserted in the brick-work, is a large marble book, with "A. D. 1897" inscribed upon its open pages. The vestibule is large and has a tiled floor. Upon the left, on the wall, is a large bronze memorial tablet. The interior is Colonial in appearance. The roof is of Southern pine with natural finish, and the floor of birch. The wainscoting is six feet high. The mantel is of pressed brick, with Colonial spiral andirons. The building is lighted by means of a Walworth gas machine, supplying 26 burners, while the heat is from a furnace. The steel book-stacks, with a capacity of 1250 volumes, the furniture, catalog case, and cards, were furnished by the Library Bureau of Boston. Already 1037 volumes have been cataloged and shelved.

Helena (Mont.) P. L. In the mayor's annual message, presented on May 3, there is a review of the work of the library, and a recommendation that in the interests of economy the library tax levy be reduced from one mill to one-half or five-eighths of a mill. The mayor says: "At the present rate of expenditure the library fund will be exhausted during the month of July, 1898, and in that event, to keep the library open for the remainder of the year, it will be necessary to issue warrants against the library fund for 1899, and thus create an indebtedness which by January 1, 1899, will amount approximately to \$2500. This is on the basis of an estimated monthly expenditure of about \$600. The present library force consists of eight persons, aside from the janitor. I do not desire to see the library crippled in its efficiency and usefulness as an element of education and enlightenment, nor the public in any way denied the advantages of access to its thousands of interesting and valuable works. In my opinion, under the present open-shelf plan, and other improvements that may well be inaugurated, the working force as now constituted can be considerably reduced without in the least impairing the present excellent service. I would therefore recommend to the library trustees that hereafter the force consist of one librarian, three assistants, and one janitor, and all other possible reduction of expenses.

"The present one-mill tax levy for library purposes produces a yearly revenue of nearly \$11,000, which will be in excess of the required amount if my recommendations are carried out. In order that the city may be benefited by the saving resulting from a reduction in the library force, I would further recommend that

steps be taken to change the tax levy for library purposes from one mill, as now authorized, so that the same may be regulated in the future at from one-half to five-eighths of a mill, which in my judgment will produce sufficient revenue to meet the changed conditions above suggested."

The library report for 1897 was presented to the city authorities on May 2. It gives the following facts: Added 2241; total 21,309. Issued, home use "over 83,300."

The trustees say "There has been a large increase during the year in the use of the library, both in the reading and loan departments, in spite of the inconvenience caused by the remodelling of the building and the entire closing of the library for about two weeks."

The handicap of an insufficient income is seriously felt, especially in extending the library's work with young people.

Holyoke (Mass.) P. L. A. Added 582; total 19,314. Issued, home use 48,777 (fict. 24,975). Receipts \$3658; expenses \$3214.

Illinois lib. law. E. S. Willcox, librarian of the Peoria Public Library, has issued a four-page folder devoted to "The Illinois free public library law," and containing a communication on the subject published in the *Peoria Journal* and his paper read before the Illinois State Library Association in November, 1896. It is a brief historical statement and explanation of the Illinois law, which was drafted by Mr. Willcox and became law in 1872.

Indiana State L., Indianapolis. The library has again shown its enterprise and interest in the library affairs of the state by the issue of a statistical folder relating to the libraries of Indiana. The facts are presented in three forms, in an alphabetical list, under the name of library, giving place, no. v., yearly accessions, character of library, "no. having access," annual circulation, and name of librarian; in a summarized statement of the foregoing statistics; and in an outline chart of the state showing libraries and population of Indiana by counties. The statistics are useful and interesting, and the column showing "Number having access" is rather startling when compared with circulation figures, especially in the case of the Marion County library, where this number is given as 200,000, though the library contains only 5000 v., and its yearly circulation is given as 500.

The statistics are summarized as follows:

Estimated population of state.....	2,500,000
Number of books in all libraries.....	651,511
" " non-circulating libs.....	302,867
" persons having access to non-circulating libs...	14,460
" books in circulating libs.....	348,644
" persons having access to libs.....	939,557
Annual circulation for all libraries...	696,404
Number of counties having no library	42
" " " 1 or more	50
Per cent. of population having access to no library.....	62.4
The summary shows that on "subtracting from circulating libraries the contents of those	

in the six largest cities we take 150,000 v., leaving less than 200,000. Subtracting the population of these six cities, we have taken but 15 per cent. of the entire population, while we have taken nearly 43 per cent. of the books. We have 200,000 books to circulate among more than 2,000,000 people, or one book for 10 persons one year; 62.4 per cent. of the population have no access to a library. Nearly 50 per cent. of all books are accessible to less than three-fifths of one per cent. of population."

Malden (Mass.) P. L. (20th rpt. — year ending Dec. 31, '97.) Added 2615; total 31,115. Issued, home use 110,697 (fict. 70,935); lib. use 5893. There were 13,313 v. issued from the children's room. New cards issued 2477; total cards in use 11,478. There are 2241 students' cards and 655 teachers' cards in force. Receipts \$14,133.16; expenses \$11,804.68.

"During the year which has just closed the library has come into the full occupancy and use of the enlargements and improvements of its original premises, which had been in progress since June, 1896." It is to a review of the present conditions of the library in its beautiful and commodious building that the report is almost wholly devoted. During the changes the library was closed from April 17 to June 1; but, despite this fact, the circulation shows a gain of 9608 over the previous year. One of the most important alterations has been the opening of the children's room, which "has met with the most signal success from the first"; the age limit has also been lowered from 12 to 10 years, and the two-book system has been introduced. The careful examination and checking of the books during their rearrangement showed a net loss of 16 volumes in two years. The Sunday attendance has been "larger than ever before."

Mansfield (O.) Memorial L. A. (Rpt., 1897.) Added 708; total 7761. Issued, home use 36,012 (fict. 53%); no. visitors 42,285. Registration 5000.

"There never has been a year when the books of reference have been used to the extent of the year just closed."

Michigan travelling libs. In the May issue of the *Normal College News*, of Ypsilanti, Mich., Miss Gertrude E. Woodard has an article describing "The Michigan system of travelling libraries"; a reprint of the finding list of one of the libraries is appended to the paper, and there is an interesting bibliography on travelling libraries, listing 49 entries, of which 33 refer to the LIBRARY JOURNAL.

Natick, Mass. Morse Institute L. (25th rpt. — year ending Jan. 31, '98.) Added 476; total 15,263 (excluding public documents). Issued, home use 37,723 (fict. 50.52%; juv. 24.43%); lib. use 1032. New registration 311; total registration 8011.

The increase in circulation is "largely due to the use of students' cards."

New Jersey, travelling libs. in. A bill authorizing the establishment of a system of travelling libraries was passed by the legislature in the

latter part of March. It provides that (1) "The board of commissioners of the state library be directed to devise methods for the creation of small state travelling libraries, with all necessary appliances for the operation, direction, and control of the same," the cost, however, not exceeding the amount which shall be annually appropriated by the legislature for such purpose. (2) The nature and character of the books to be purchased shall be determined and controlled by the said commission or a majority of them, and the purchase of all books to be used in connection with said travelling library shall be made as said commission may direct. . . . (3) Said travelling libraries shall be used and operated at such points as the said commission may direct, but the said commission shall not be authorized to expend moneys for the rental of any place or places in any municipality in this state from which distribution shall be made from said travelling libraries."

The bill, however, contains no provision for any appropriation for the purpose, so it can hardly prove promptly effective. It was urged by the women's clubs of the state, which have planned the management of travelling libraries as part of their work.

N. Y. F. C. L. By special permission of the board of fire commissioners the travelling library department is now preparing to send travelling libraries to such of the engine-houses in the city as wish to use them.

The exact text of the resolution adopted by the board of education on March 16 last, relating to the use of library books in the schools, and alluded to by Miss Cragin in the May issue of *L. J.* (p. 194), is as follows:

Resolved: That the principals of public schools, upon application to the committee on studies, be allowed to supplement their present libraries by the use of books provided by the free circulating libraries of the city, provided that such books are contained in the present catalog of books authorized to be used in the public school libraries, or in such additions to this catalog as may be made from time to time by the board of education, and that directors of libraries be requested before purchasing books for use in schools, to submit to the board lists of such proposed purchases for approval, and that all books on such lists, as shall be approved by the board, will be regarded at once as forming additions to the catalog.

The 10th branch of the library was opened on June 6, at 215 East 34th street. The building, which was formerly a residence, resembles the one now occupied by the Harlem branch, but it has been remodelled, so that the front of the library floor is mostly of glass, and a 20-foot addition has been made in the rear. The partitions have been entirely removed on the first and second floors where the library and reading-room are respectively located. The library is operated on the open-shelf system, so that when the new Bloomingdale building is completed, next autumn, a majority of the library's branches will be free-access libraries. The new branch is known as the 34th street branch and starts work with about 4000 v.

New York Society L. (Rpt. — year ending March 31, '98.) No statistics as to accession or use are given. Receipts were \$20,744.83, and

expenses \$20,633.80. Work on the new catalog is progressing steadily. The matter of the removal of the library has been deferred on account of "the present financial condition of the library," but the subject has been placed in the hands of a special committee and examinations have been made of various sites.

Oakland (Cal.) F. L. Librarian Petersen in his report for March says: "The 'two-book system' has been put in operation, and is generally appreciated. It was begun on the 15th inst., and 267 borrowers have availed themselves of this privilege. The 'two-book system' naturally increases the number of books circulated. The circulation of this month is 15,852 volumes, an increase of 1489 volumes over the report of the previous month, and the largest monthly circulation in the history of the library. This is very gratifying, especially as a better class of literature is being called for and a better class of books issued."

Philadelphia Law L. SAMUEL, John. Address delivered on the opening of the Law Library of the Law Association of Philadelphia, on March 30, 1898. 20 p. O.

Carnegie L., Pittsburgh, Lawrenceville Branch. The Lawrenceville branch of the Carnegie Library, of Pittsburgh, was opened Tuesday evening, May 10. The exercises, consisting of speeches, and choruses by the school children of the Lawrenceville district, were held in the auditorium on the ground floor, and afterward the audience inspected the book-stack and reading-rooms. The building is so planned that all may go directly to the shelves to choose their books. Only one borrower's card will be issued to a person, but this card will be good at the central library or at any of the branches. Books must be returned to the place from which they were issued.

For the children, a special room has been provided, 31 by 33 feet, which is lighted by four large windows. Low oak cases with movable shelves, having a capacity of 4000 volumes, extend around the room and under the glass partitions. Swing doors open into the lobby and stack, their glass panels being low enough to enable the children to see through and avoid bumping each other as they pass in and out. A miniature rack holds the magazines, and the chairs and tables are of two sizes. Six tables are 3 by 5 feet and 28 inches high; chairs, seats 16 inches high and 16½ inches deep. Three tables are 3 by 5 feet and 22 inches high; chairs, seats 14 inches high and 14 inches deep. Six chairs at each table seat 54 children at once. Since the opening, after school hours, the room has held twice that number, the chairs being wide the children share them, while a crowd of eager, expectant faces outside the glass partition await their turn.*

Quincy, Mass. Thomas Crane P. L. (27th rpt., 1897.) Added 764; total not given. Issued 82,574 (fict. 33.5%; periodicals 23.0%; juv. fict.

* For plans of the Lawrenceville branch see *LIBRARY JOURNAL*, 122: 440-41.

21.9%), of which 3923 were issued to the schools. New registration 786; total registration 14,486.

There is a constantly growing demand for special books—industrial works, books relating to crafts, arts, and professions, books on genealogy and local history—and in this direction the trustees feel that "the equipment of the library is not equal to its call."

Redlands, Cal. Smiley Memorial L. The public park and library building given to Redlands by A. K. Smiley, of that city, was formally dedicated and presented to the city on April 29. The exercises were largely attended, the new building being filled to overflowing; the opening address was made by Rev. J. H. Williams, and Mr. A. K. Smiley followed with an earnest speech, reviewing his purpose in establishing the library and the park, and his hopes that both might long be of service to the city. The deeds of trust were then given by Mr. Smiley to the mayor, who accepted them with an address of thanks. Other addresses were made by different speakers, and a general public reception to Mr. Smiley followed, after which the library was inspected by the audience.

The building is a beautiful example of the old "mission" style of architecture. It is 100 by 96, built of brick on a granite foundation, with sandstone trimmings and a tiled roof. The interior finishing is quartered oak throughout. A colonnade 72 by 10 feet extends from the porte-cochere on the west end of the building to the end of the northern wing. At the angle in the centre is the main entrance, a portico 18 feet wide leading into a vestibule, with arches and marble columns. The steps are of granite and the columns and trimmings of Tennessee marble. The central tower, 50 feet from ground to apex, is three stories in height, the upper room being an observatory, which commands a magnificent view of the East San Bernardino valley, and the second floor occupied by a committee-room. From the vestibule entrance is had to the general reading-room, 36 by 20 feet, with an additional space 20 by 17 feet. The books will be arranged in the north wing, 24 by 35 feet. The south wing will be devoted to reference-books in a room 22 by 24 feet. In the west wing is the periodical-room, 24 by 35 feet. The librarian's desk, in the general reading-room, commands a view of the whole interior. Back of this is a ladies' room and a librarian's room, each 12 by 15 feet. The blank walls on one side each of the library proper and the periodical-room are arranged and lighted for use as an art gallery, if desired.

The estimated cost is \$50,000, and the building stands in a park of 22 acres, worth \$25,000 more.

Rutherford (N. J.) F. L. A. (Rpt.) Added by purchase 130; total 2230. Issued, home use 12,369 (fict. 11,021). New registration 211; total registration 1071. Receipts \$1086.79; expenses \$941.43.

St. Joseph (Mo.) P. L. The report of the library for the year ending April 30, 1898, was

presented to the directors on May 11. It gives the following facts: Added 2562; total 14,859. Issued, home use 116,030 (fict. 79.90 %); ref. use (from circulating dept.) 1453. Cards in force 4352.

An inventory of the library—the first taken in several years—shows that "during the eight years of the library's existence 82 volumes are unaccounted for," of which 47 were taken from the reference-room. There has been a slight decrease in circulation, but reference use showed an increase of 40 %. "An investigation among cardholders in three of our largest factories developed the fact that in 1896-7 hundreds of employees worked short hours, while the last nine months they have worked full time or overtime. The general interest in war news and the incidents leading thereto have caused many people to become more general newspaper readers, thus affecting the circulation of library books. About one-half of the decrease in the number of books issued for home use during the year occurred during the last two months."

"The average number of books issued to each cardholder during the year was 28.6," or about 1.75 to each inhabitant. "Figuring the entire expense of the library against circulation, the cost per volume issued was 6.5 cents, a decrease of .3 cents per volume."

Work with the schools has been continued, and it is recommended that the two-book rule be extended to include pupils in high schools. "The delivery stations established the first of the year have fully demonstrated their need"; there are now three of these stations, through which 1640 v. have been issued. Three others are needed and have been applied for, and it is proposed to establish one in the rooms of the Y. W. C. A.

A special need is the establishment of a children's room.

Salem (Mass.) P. L. (9th rpt.—year ending Dec. 24, '97.) Added 2026; total 34,564. Issued, home use 110,404 (fict. 84.57 %); ref. attendance 7506. New registration 686; total registration 11,079. Receipts \$17,647.61; expenses \$12,125.82.

The present steadiness of the circulation shows that the library "has passed the stage when its novelty caused an unusually large patronage." The trustees refer to the librarian's full statement of the necessary development and enlargement of the library made in the previous report, and remark that "to make the library of greater educational value to the young and to place a larger number of books on shelves to which readers have direct access are two most important features of the plans suggested." During the year the card catalog was installed in the reading-room for public access.

Somerville (Mass.) P. L. (25th rpt., 1897.) Added 4147; total 33,708. Issued, home use 193,491. New registration 2218; total registration 8026. Receipts and expenses \$10,360.77.

The report of the late Mr. Hayes evidences strikingly his interest in and constant thought of the library. It is a full review

of the development of the library during a quarter of a century, of its present field and its needs and opportunities for the future. Books were circulated during the year through the schools, through delivery stations, and through the various fire-engine stations. Considerable space is given to the relations of the library with the schools, and nearly 12 pages are devoted to expressions of opinion from principals and teachers in the various city schools regarding the value of the work already done by the library in this direction and the importance of its extension. Among the needs of the immediate future the most pressing is an enlargement of the building, to provide adequate reading-room and reference facilities and to permit the establishment of a children's room. The growth of a quarter of a century is thus summarized: "The library opened its doors to the public with 2384 volumes on the shelves, it now has 37,708. The first month it issued 1700 books for home reading, the last month 20,490. During the first year of its existence 31,317 volumes were circulated, during the last year 193,491. The library found a home in one small room in the city hall, to-day we have a building of eight rooms and are sadly in immediate need of more." The total circulation of books for the period is 1,949,953. The total appropriations for library support were \$121,086. The various changes in routine and administration are noted, and the report as a whole is an interesting and encouraging record of library development.

Springfield (Mass.) City L. A. The library has issued a statistical summary of its work for the three years 1895-1898, which gives the following facts for 1897: Added 3796; total 101,306. Issued, home use 150,538 (fict. and juv. 75,947); ref. use 21,373; visitors to ref. lib. 9025; visitors to reading-room 59,440.

An exhibition of Ongania's great art-work, "San Marco," was held in the lecture-room of the art building June 1-3. The announcement of the exhibit was made in an artistic circular, describing Ongania's work, giving extracts from Ruskin's description of the church of St. Mark, and including a good short reference list on the subject.

Towanda (Pa.) L. A. On the evening of May 17 the new library building erected by F. P. Welles, of Paris, was formally presented to the library association.

FOREIGN.

Bodleian L., Oxford, Eng. (Rpt., 1897.) The increase of the library during the year is given as 58,513 items, of which 41,935 were accessions under the copyright act. "This total is lower than that of any of the three years immediately preceding, the decrease being mainly due to a diminution in the number of the least important of the copyright accessions. The most notable addition to the manuscript department was 'a remarkable collection of papers given by Mr. John Mullings, of Cirencester, derived from the papers of Sir John Bennet, one of the most important men of the reign of

Elizabeth and James I., and one of Sir Thomas Bodley's executors.'

"The number of mss. cataloged and indexed by Mr. Madan for the 'Summary catalogue' was 631, making a total of 6662 up to the end of 1897; he also treated 2934 mss. by a cross-reference. The total number of mss. dealt with by him was 3565." The fourth volume of the catalog (the second to be completed) was published during the year from the Clarendon Press.

Early in December the transfer of books to the refitted basement of the old Ashmolean building was begun. "This transfer gave space for putting in locked cases the remainder of the 'select library' at the Radcliffe Camera, a measure of which the necessity was communicated to the university by the curators in their report published on March 19, 1895. The depredations there mentioned showed no sign of ceasing, and in 1897 considerably exceeded the average—no fewer than 30 fresh volumes being reported missing from the 'select library' in that one year. A certain number of sections, however, from which no books have as yet been stolen, or from the size or character of their contents seem likely to be stolen, have for the present been left unlocked, and the librarian will take every means which the funds of the library allow to expedite the delivery of books from the locked cases, and to compensate as far as possible for the step which had become necessary for the safety of the library."

Leeds, Eng. Mr. James Yates, long librarian of the Leeds Public Libraries, has established an interesting venture in Yates's Subscription Library. This is conducted as a circulating library and reading-room, the annual subscription being a guinea a year, which entitles each member to a book and a magazine. It includes also the nucleus of a reference library. Frequent additions of popular books are made to the collection, and Mr. Yates undertakes to arrange for the cataloging of public or private libraries and similar bibliographical work. Books and magazines will also be purchased for persons desiring them.

Gifts and Bequests.

Buffalo (N. Y.) P. L. The Buffalo Choral Union has presented to the library its valuable collection of orchestral scores, oratorios, and other musical works, to form the nucleus of a music department. This action was taken on the dissolution of the society.

Lancaster, Pa. Miss Eliza E. Smith, a wealthy resident, has deeded to Lancaster property known as the Reynolds mansion for a public library. The remodelled building is to be called the A. Herr Smith Memorial Library, in memory of the giver's brother. The mansion is the largest residence in Lancaster, and is an immense three-story brick building, with heavy marble trimmings, having a frontage of 45 feet and depth of 100 feet. It is centrally located opposite the public building, and back of

it is a very large lot. Miss Smith will provide books for the library and properly endow it, beside erecting an annex for the general library. She will probably expend \$75,000 on the institution. The building will be dedicated in a few weeks, but will not open for service until the autumn.

Providence (R. I.) P. L. Mr. John Nicholas Brown, whose gift of \$200,000 last year assured the completion of the new building of the Providence Public Library, has added to that gift the sum of \$45,000, to be used in improving and beautifying the approaches, surroundings, and finishing details of the building.

Librarians.

AVERY, Miss Mary L., for some years on the staff of the Pratt Institute Free Library and instructor in the library school, has accepted a position on the staff of the New York Public Library, where she will be engaged in cataloging and arranging the large and important library of musical works presented to the Lenox Library by the late Joseph W. Drexel. Miss Avery has since 1894 been one of the editors of the Pratt Institute *Monthly*.

BEARD, James F., who, as noted in the May L. J., was on May 3 elected librarian of the Somerville (Mass.) Public Library, later declined the appointment, and has been succeeded by S. W. Foss.

BOWEN, Miss Mary, one of the library pupils of Miss Theresa Hitchler, has been appointed cataloger at the New York Society Library.

BROOKS, Miss Mary C., Pratt Institute Library School, 1897, has been appointed second assistant at the Erie (Pa.) Public Library.

FOSS, Sam Walter, well known as a journalist and verse-writer, was on May 17 elected librarian of the Somerville (Mass.) Public Library, succeeding the late John S. Hayes, and filling the vacancy caused by the declination of J. F. Beard, who had been appointed to the post two weeks previously. Mr. Foss, who has lived in Somerville for the past 10 years, was born in Candia, N. H., June 19, 1850, and after leaving the Portsmouth high school entered Brown University, from which he was graduated with the class of 1882. He has been a journalist for many years, having been editor of the *Lynn Saturday Union* and of the *Yankee Blade*, and of recent years has written for the *New York Sun* and for magazines. He has published three volumes of verse: "Back country poems" (1892), "Whiffs from wild meadows" (1895), and "Dreams in homespun" (1897).

HOLDEN, William, was on April 30 elected librarian of the Young Men's Mercantile Association of Cincinnati, succeeding the late John Newton. Mr. Holden, who was born in Marietta, O., was educated at Marietta College, which he left in April, 1861, before completing his course, to enlist in the 18th Ohio Volunteer Infantry. He served until the close of the war,

April 21, 1866. Mr. Holden is a naturalist of standing, having served on surveys for Yale University and for the Smithsonian Institution; he has also been assistant geologist of the Ohio State Geological Survey. He has had considerable connection with library affairs, having been for several years librarian and treasurer of Marietta College, and having classified and cataloged several private libraries. In 1874 he was appointed by the library commissioners of Ohio to prepare and print a catalog of the Ohio State Library.

HUTCHINSON, Miss Susan A., Pratt Institute Library School, class of '98, has been recalled before completion of her course to the Blackstone Library, Branford, Ct., of which she has been appointed assistant librarian.

LORD, Miss Isabel Ely, B.L.S., New York State Library School, 1897, has accepted an appointment as librarian of Bryn Mawr College.

MACK, Miss Katharine M., Pratt Institute Library School, 1897, formerly assistant in charge of the Astral branch of the Pratt Institute, has been appointed assistant librarian of the Erie (Pa.) Public Library.

REED, Miss Mabel, of the New York State Library School, 1896-97, has been appointed cataloger at the Young Men's Christian Association Library of New York City.

TOBITT, Miss Edith, who has been acting librarian of the Omaha (Neb.) Public Library since September last, was on May 27 unanimously elected librarian of that library. Miss Tobitt is a graduate of the Pratt Institute Library School.

TOWNSEND, Miss Lucile, one of the library pupils of Miss Theresa Hitchler, has been appointed cataloger at the New York Society Library.

Cataloging and Classification.

BELFAST (*Irel.*) L. AND SOC. FOR PROMOTING KNOWLEDGE. Supplementary catalog of books added, 1897; comp. by George Smith, librarian. Belfast, 1898. 20 p. O.

An author-and-title list of general literature, followed by an author-and-title list of prose fiction.

The BOSTON BOOK CO.'s *Bulletin of Bibliography* for April contains a number of special lists—"Fools and clowns of Shakespeare," by Miss C. E. Wallace, of the Pratt Institute Library School; "One hundred good short stories," by Mrs. H. L. Elmendorf; and the concluding instalments of Mr. Cole's list on Bermuda and Miss Tucker's "List of books first published in periodicals."

The BOSTON P. L. *Bulletin* for May contains parts 1 and 2 of "A list of books on social reform." Parts 3 and 4 will appear in the June number, with an index to the whole list. The list is classified into four broad divisions—Early industrial and social conditions, Present

industrial and social conditions, Schemes of social reform, and The state and its functions — with many minor sub-classes.

CARNEGIE L., *Pittsburgh*. Catalogue of English prose fiction (adult and juvenile). Pittsburgh, 1898. 104 p. O.

An author list in one alphabet, printed by the linotype method. Entries are made under well-known pseudonyms, with references from real names, and there are brief annotations, indicating form of serial publication in the case of books originally so issued, or giving brief descriptive comment.

— Catalogue of the J. D. Bernd department of architecture. Pittsburgh, 1898. 34 p. O.

Prefaced by a short account of the Bernd bequest of \$19,000 and a biographical sketch of its giver, Julius D. Bernd. A classed annotated list, many of the comments being taken from Sturgis and Krehbie's "Annotated bibliography of fine art." The annual income of the bequest amounts to \$950, and as this alone is used, "a live collection is assured for all time."

CINCINNATI (O.) P. L. Quarterly bulletin, no. 135. January - February - March, 1898. 24 p. O.

DETROIT (Mich.) P. L. Bulletin no. 9, of books added to the public library in 1897. Detroit, 1898. 198 p. O.

NOTICE TO SUBSCRIBERS TO THE "EXPANSIVE CLASSIFICATION." As it appears that some booksellers and the Library Bureau have no complete list of the persons who have ordered the "Expansive classification" through them, and as the names of these buyers have not been communicated to me, I request all such persons and libraries to send to me their address and the name of their agent. This I do at the suggestion of the Library Bureau, to insure the prompt and correct forwarding of the sheets which are yet to be published.

C. A. CUTTER,
Forbes Library, Northampton, Mass.

The FITCHBURG (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin for May has lists on the Hawaiian Islands and Memorial day.

NEW BEDFORD (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin for April concludes in reference list no. 31 the list of books for younger readers begun in the preceding number.

NEW LONDON (Ct.) P. L. Supplement to finding list, March, 1898. Baltimore, Friedewald Co., 1898.

A classed list, printed by the linotype method.

The N. Y. P. L. Bulletin for April contains an important and interesting list of periodicals, collections, and society publications relating to American history and genealogy in that library and in Columbia University Library; it covers 35 pages; there is also a four-page list of "Publications relating to temperance."

The NEWARK (N. J.) P. L. News for May has special "List of books on Cuba, Philippine Islands, and the navy of the U. S."

The OMAHA (Nebr.) P. L. Bulletin for May has lists on "The army and navy of the U. S." and on Gladstone.

The PROVIDENCE (R. I.) P. L. Bulletin for May contains reference list no. 57 on Gladstone — an interesting and timely bibliography.

The ST. LOUIS P. L. Magazine for May contains a full classed reading list on Spain and a short list on Decoration day.

The SALEM (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin for May is a "Cookery number," being largely devoted to a description and classified list of the collection of books on cookery and domestic economy, numbering over 200 v., recently given to the library by Mrs. Thomas Hunt.

The SOMERVILLE (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin for April continues the list of Americana begun in the March number.

SMITHSONIAN INSTITUTION, *Washington, D. C.* Publications of the Smithsonian Institution available for distribution, April, 1898. Washington, 1898. 30 p. O.

U. S. DEPT. OF AGRICULTURE. Library bulletin, April, 1898. Accessions to the department library, January - March, 1898. 40 p. (printed on one side) O.

The WALTHAM (Mass.) P. L. Bulletin for May has a special list of short stories.

CHANGED TITLES.

In 1888 Swan Sonnenschein, Lowrey & Co. (London), published the first two of the five volumes of George McCall Theal's "History of South Africa." In 1897 the same firm (Swan Sonnenschein & Co.) published these same two volumes under the title of "History of South Africa under the administration of the Dutch East India Company," a revision of the earlier volumes, though the changes are not of such importance as to make many libraries care to purchase the 1897 edition if they have the earlier one. S: H. R.

"The building of the British empire" (2 vols.), by Alfred Thomas Story, is published by G. P. Putnam's Sons (1898) in "The story of the nations" series. The same book is published by Chapman & Hall, Ltd. (London, 1898) in two volumes, under the title of "The building of the empire." The American edition contains a few more illustrations than the English one. There is nothing about the English edition to indicate that it is included in the well-known "Story of the nations" series. S: H. R.

FULL NAMES.

Supplied by Harvard College Library.

Birkmire, W: Harvey (Skeleton construction in buildings);

Black, Israel Putnam (Practical plans for primary teachers of the Sunday-school);

Brewer, Abraham Titus (How to make the Sunday-school go);

Dingey, P: Spear (Machinery pattern making);

Hiscox, Gardner Dexter (Gas, gasoline, and oil vapor engines);

Meyer, Jacob G: Arnold (Modern locomotive construction);

Wells, Amos Russell (Sunday-school success);

The following are supplied by John Crerar Library, Chicago.

Hardy, Mrs. Mary Earle (The halls of shell, by Mrs. A. S. Hardy);

Herron, G: Davis (Social meanings of religious experiences).

Bibliography.

CHILD STUDY. Wilson, Louis N. Bibliography of child study. (*In The Pedagogical Seminary*, April, 1898. 5: 541-589.)

Mr. Wilson is the librarian of Clark University and he has prepared this bibliography partly in self-defence, for he has been answering many letters requesting references on child study, together with his work of assisting investigators at Worcester. The bibliography comprises 641 titles of books, memoirs, and brief articles, "selected from a far larger list" kept at the library, and in addition to the principal section, which includes such works as Marie Bashkirtseff's "Journal of a young artist," John Stuart Mill's "Autobiography," and Stevenson's "Virginibus puerisque," there are sections containing "Journals," "Reports, serial studies, and transactions of societies," and "Works of standard reference on allied topics." A subject index and brief annotations add to its value. The bibliography may be had in reprint form for 50 cents. Mr. Wilson contemplates a larger bibliography and will be glad to receive "other publications, titles, or suggestions."

ELECTRIC RAILROADS. Dawson, Philip. Electric railways and tramways, their construction and operation. London, Engineering, 1897. 26+677 p. 4°.

Contains a list of 30 titles of books and periodicals on electric traction.

FLORIDA. Chambers, H: E. West Florida and its relation to the historical cartography of the United States. Balt., Johns Hopkins Press, 1898. 59 p. O. (Johns Hopkins University studies in historical and political science, series 16, no. 5.) 25 c.

Contains a bibliography of 49 titles.

MUNICIPAL AFFAIRS. Indiana State Library. Bulletin. 3d ser., no. 2: Bibliography of cities and towns. May 1, 1898. Indianapolis, 1898. 56 p. O.

The Indiana State Library is to be congratulated upon its second special bibliography, and its enterprise in thus putting its resources at the services of all students deserves hearty recognition. This bibliography has been prepared with the assistance of Mr. R. C. Brooks, whose bibliography of "Municipal govern-

ment" was reviewed in L. J. 22: 269. It is an author list, each entry being given a marginal number, and is prefaced by a subject index, referring to title by number. Under the heading "Clippings" are listed numerous newspaper cuttings bearing upon the subject. Entries include reports and articles in periodicals as well as books and pamphlets. There are 963 titles listed.

NEW ENGLAND CATECHISMS. Eames, Wilberforce. Early New England catechisms: a bibliographical account of some catechisms published before the year 1800, for use in New England; read in part before the American Antiquarian Society, at its annual meeting in Worcester, Oct. 31, 1897. Worcester, Mass., 1898. 112 p. O.

A comprehensive and valuable bibliographical review of the early catechisms of New England, giving full details of title-pages, collation, etc., and numerous extracts. It is largely based upon the Livermore collection of early catechisms, contained in the Lenox branch of the New York Public Library. In an appendix some of the chief English catechisms are enumerated.

THEOLOGICAL AND SEMITIC LITERATURE. Muss-Arnolt, W. Theological and Semitic literature: a bibliographical supplement to the *Am. Journal of Theology*, the *Am. Journal of Semitic Languages and Literature*, and the *Biblical World*. [W. Muss-Arnolt, Univ. of Chicago, 1898.] 32 p. O.

U. S. HISTORY. Channing, Edward. A students' history of the United States. N. Y., Macmillan, 1893. 40 + 603 p. Por. D. \$1.40.

The bibliographical notes and lists of books for consultation give this book an added value for libraries.

INDEXES.

THE MONTHLY CUMULATIVE INDEX, published at 227 Eighth ave., Minneapolis, is an interesting bibliographical experiment, being a cumulative linotype list of current American publications. The arrangement is in two lists, the first alphabetic by authors and titles, the second a classified list with shorter entries. In the classed list the titles are roughly massed under the subject headings, with no attempt at alphabetic or other sequence. The author entries give short title, size, illustrations or portraits, price, publisher, and date of publication. There are no annotations. The subscription price is \$1 per year.

THE MAKING of an index. (*In Engineering News*, April 28, 1898. 39: 273.) 4 col.

Answers the question "What constitutes a good index?" and discusses the principles underlying index-making. "An index is essentially a device to save the reader time; and every unnecessary item is a flaw, because it adds to the bulk of the index and in some degree makes it less convenient for use."

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